RYU COMICS SPECIAL

おもいでエマノン

[原作] 梶尾真治
[作画] 鶴田謙二

徳間書店

9784199500770

1929979008000

ISBN978-4-19-950077-0

C9979 ¥800E（0）

雑誌 48650−77

定価：本体800円＋税

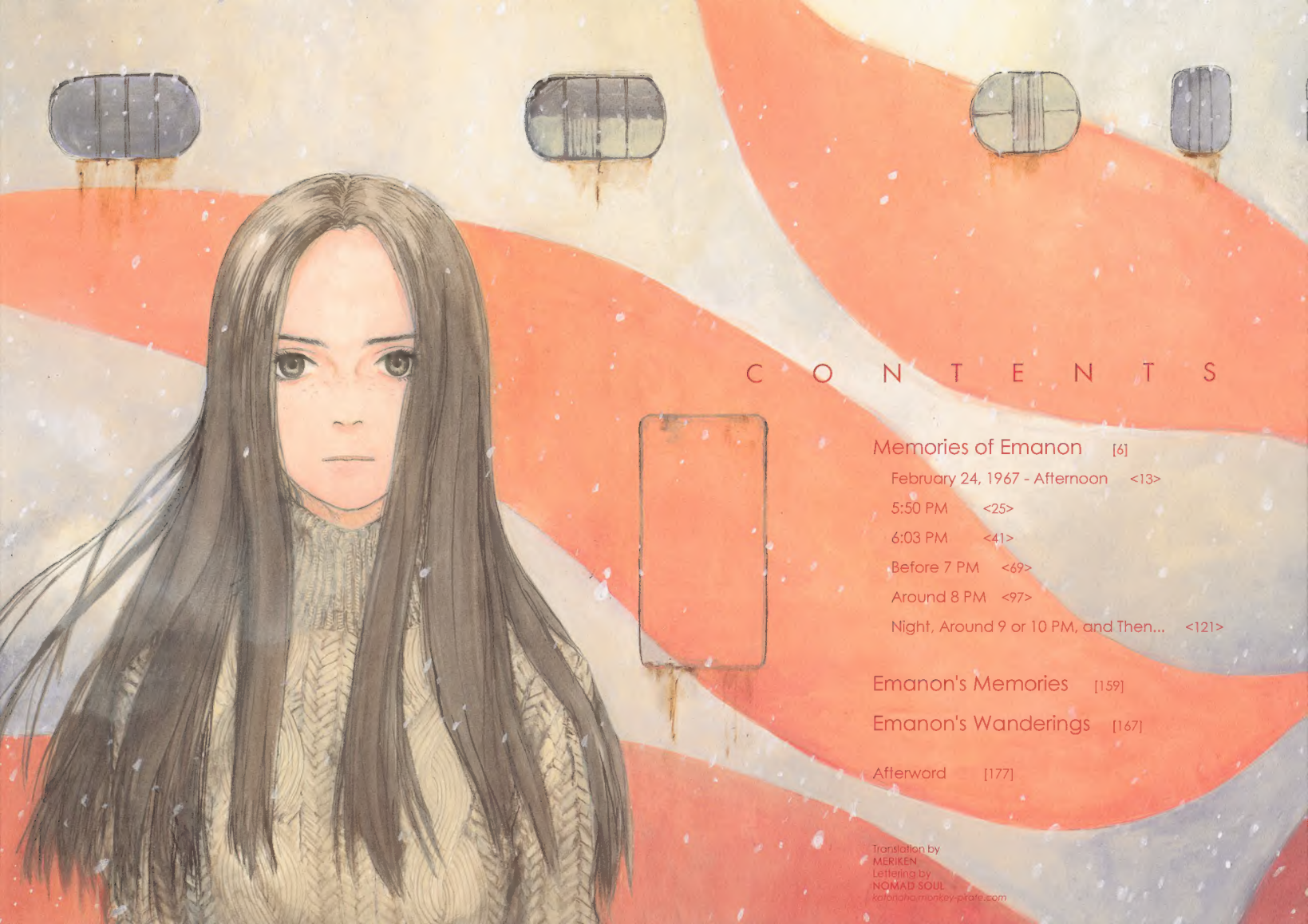
徳間書店

おもいでエマノン

梶尾真治×鶴田謙二

おもいでエマノン
[原作] 梶尾真治
[作画] 鶴田謙二
徳間書店

E.N



CONTENTS

Memories of Emanon [6]

February 24, 1967 - Afternoon <13>

5:50 PM <25>

6:03 PM <41>

Before 7 PM <69>

Around 8 PM <97>

Night, Around 9 or 10 PM, and Then... <121>

Emanon's Memories [159]

Emanon's Wanderings [167]

Afterword [177]

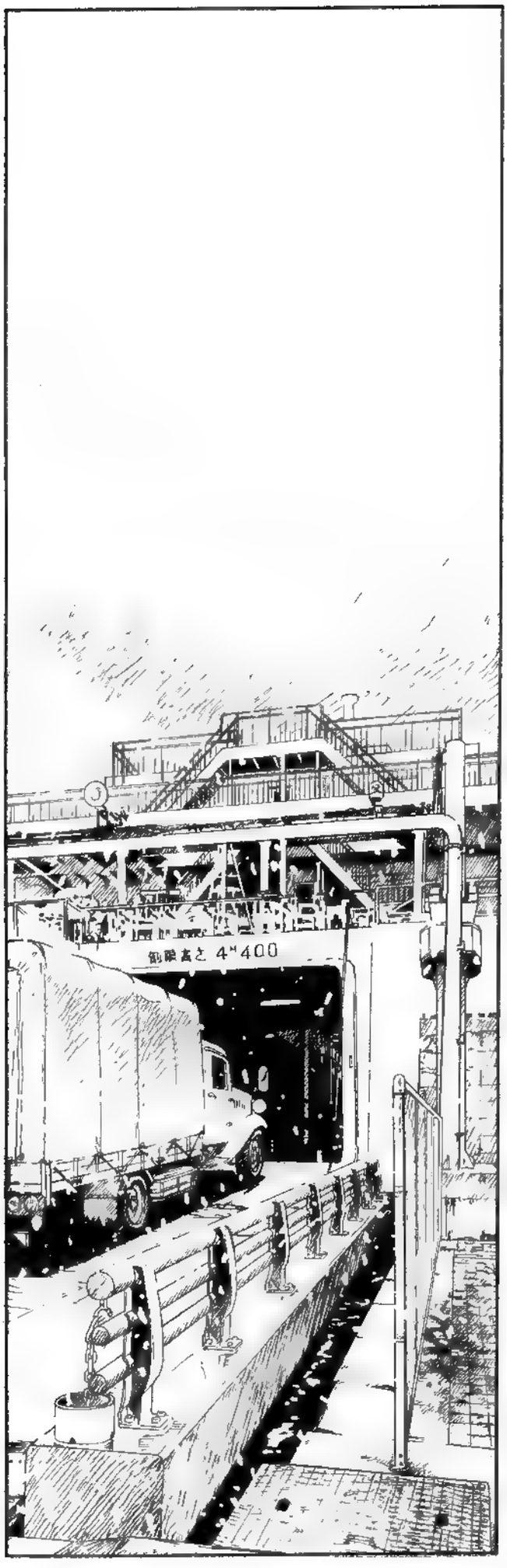
Translation by
MERIKEN
Lettering by
NOMAD SOUL
katanahamonkey-pirate.com

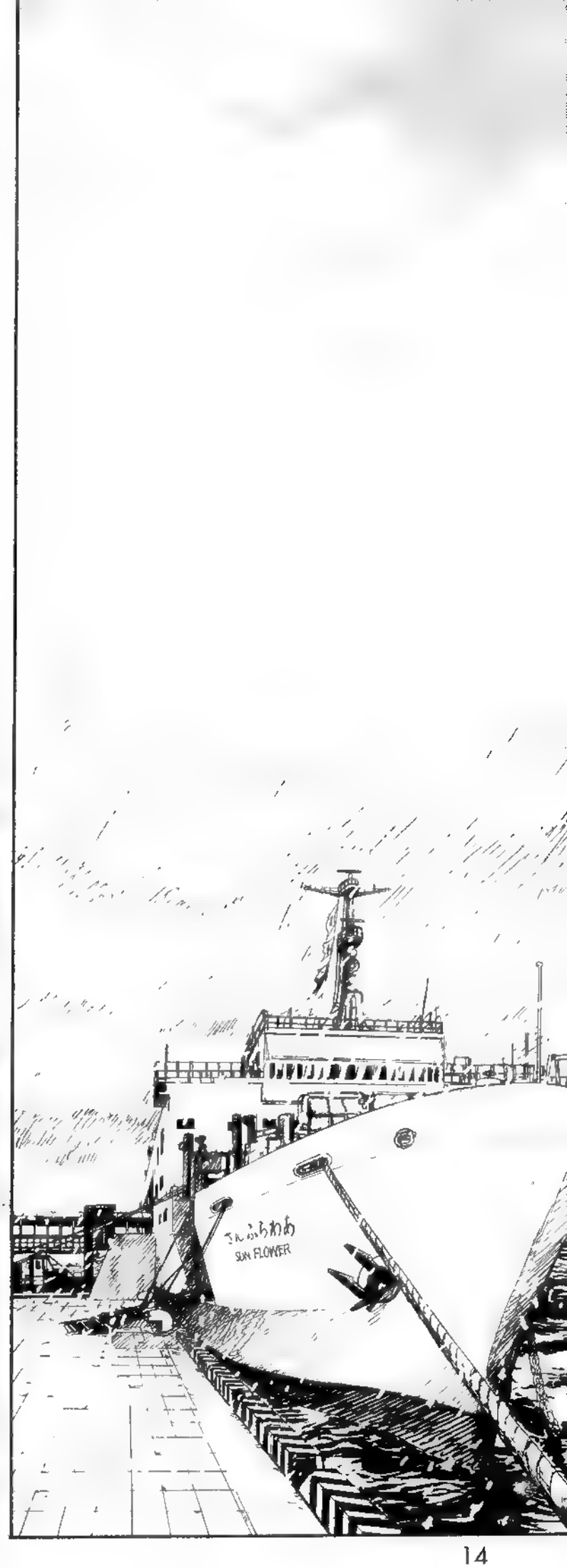
Memories of Emanon

Story: Shinji Kajio
Art: Kenji Tsuruta

Memories of Emanon

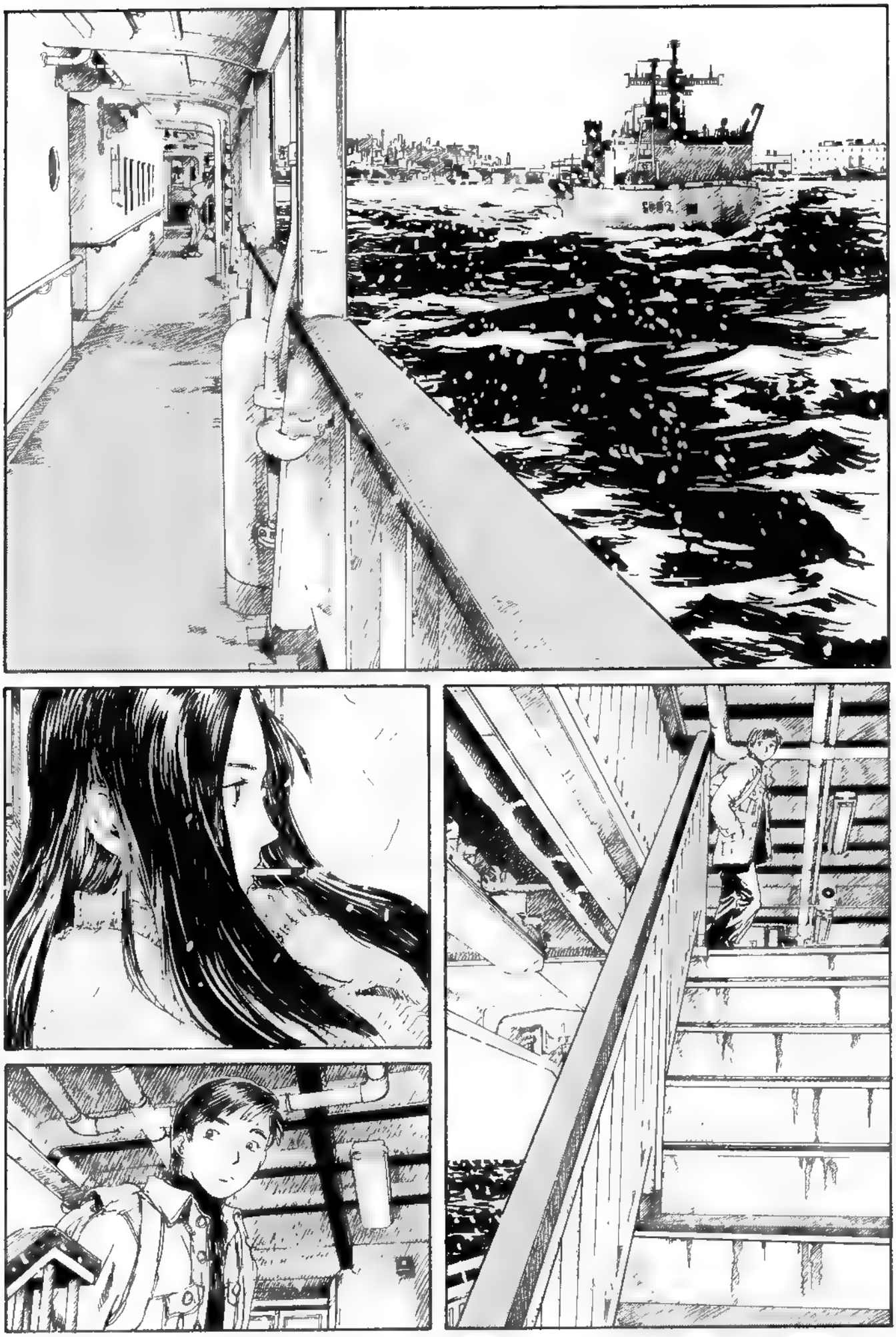
February 24, 1967 - Afternoon


4"400


SUN FLOWER

Sign: To Kochi, Kagoshima
1967
高知
鹿児島行
Project Gemini had just come to a close, and Apollo was reaching for the Moon.
But Apollo 1 claimed the first casualties in the history of space exploration, and the Moon still seemed like a distant reality.

It was the year 500,000 American soldiers were deployed in the Vietnam War...
...and the year Heinlein won his fourth Hugo Award at the age of sixty.



You could hear "I'm a Believer" no matter where you went...
SPECTRE had turned Mount Aso's caldera into a fortress, and giant monsters and space aliens were busy fighting each other on color TV.
...and Paul was in the middle of writing "Sgt. Pepper."
HUH?
HARRY'S MEMORY
OHH ...
SURE. GO AHEAD.

As for me, I was still sitting on the fence-- a student, drowned in sci-fi and unrequited love...
I DON'T THINK IT'S GOOD FOR A GIRL TO SMOKE.
That's when I met that wandering girl.

...
HOW COME?
B-
BECAUSE ...

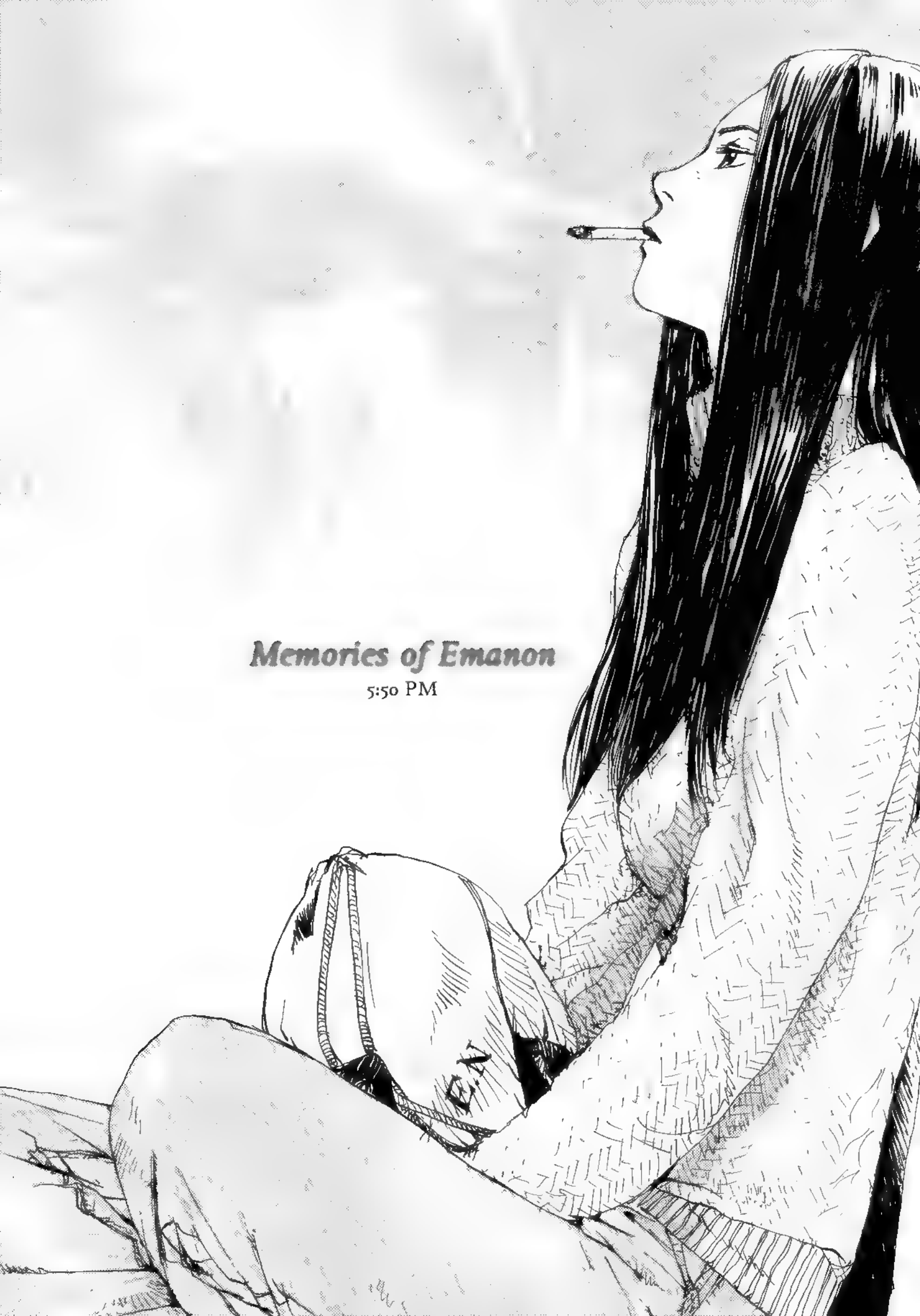
THEY SAY SMOKING WEAKENS YOUR MEMORY...
AND IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD, EITHER...
OH... I MEAN ...
...
I GUESS THAT APPLIES TO GUYS TOO.
I SHOULD'VE KEPT MY MOUTH SHUT.
SORRY ...
...

THAT SPOT OPEN?
YOU WANT SOME APPLES, MISSY?
THANK YOU.
YES.
HOO ...
IT'S NIPPY TONIGHT, EH?

OOOH, NICE SPOT OPEN 'ERE.
SQUEEZE IN A BIT, SIS.
SORRY, CAN I PUT THIS HERE...?
HEY, I CAN SWITCH WITH YOU.
...
E.N

I'd recovered from the pangs of rejection. My wallet was empty. And I was heading back home.
We would reach Kyushu* in 17 hours.
And I started thinking that this "casual community" of travelers might not be so bad after all with a beautiful woman at my side.

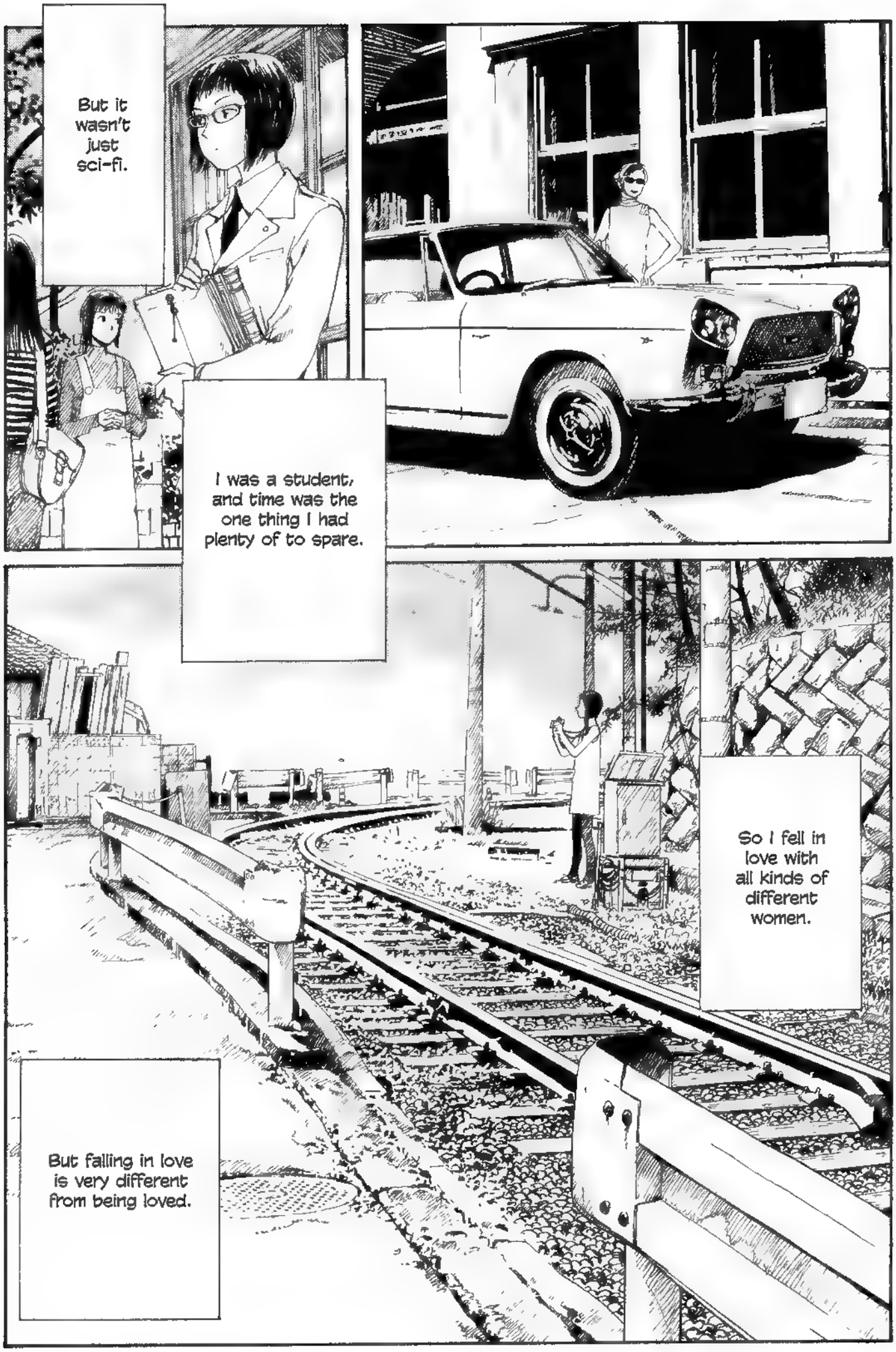
*The most southern and the third largest of the main islands of Japan, whose main cities are Fukuoka and Nagasaki.


Memories of Emanon
5:50 PM

*The 1960 protest against the revised version of the USA-Japan Security Treaty (popularly known as Anpo).

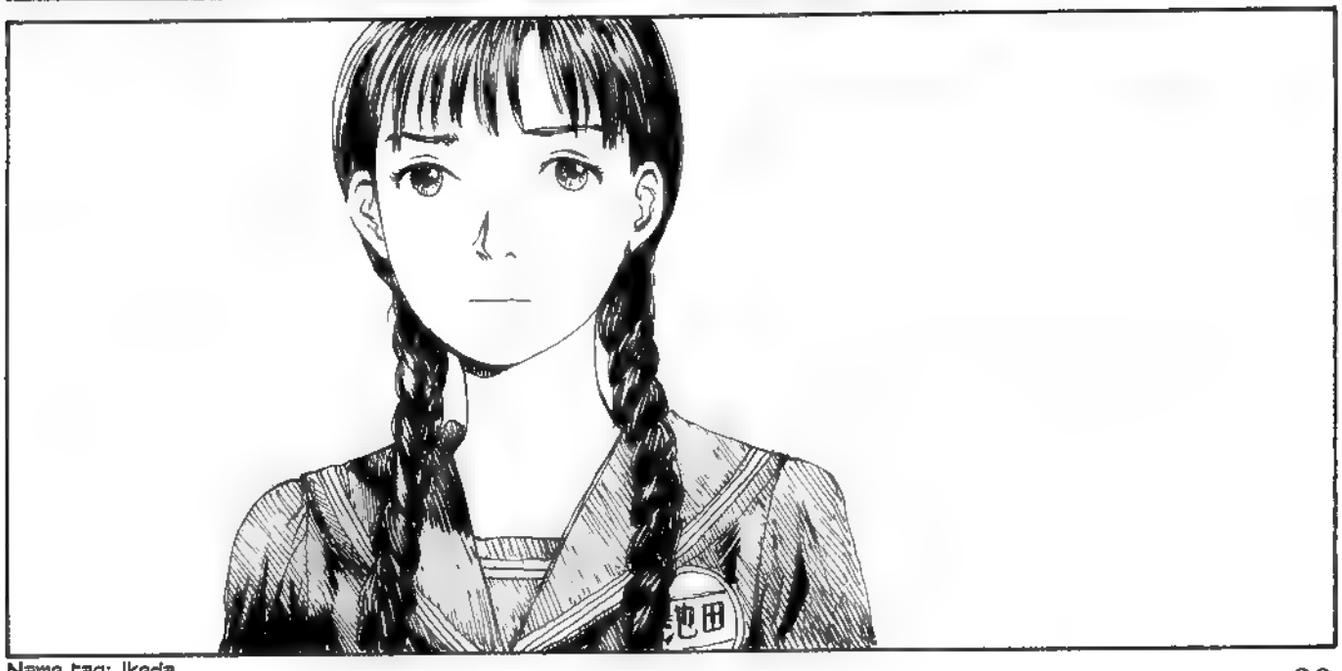
Nevertheless, I remember spending my days sitting on the fence, free of anxieties, and consumed with sci-fi.
During my student days,
the schools were not a peaceful place to be, in the face of the Anpo struggle*.
安保反対

Sign: Kill the Anpo


But it wasn't just sci-fi.
I was a student, and time was the one thing I had plenty of to spare.
So I fell in love with all kinds of different women.
But falling in love is very different from being loved.

Bus sign: Nishijima City, Second District

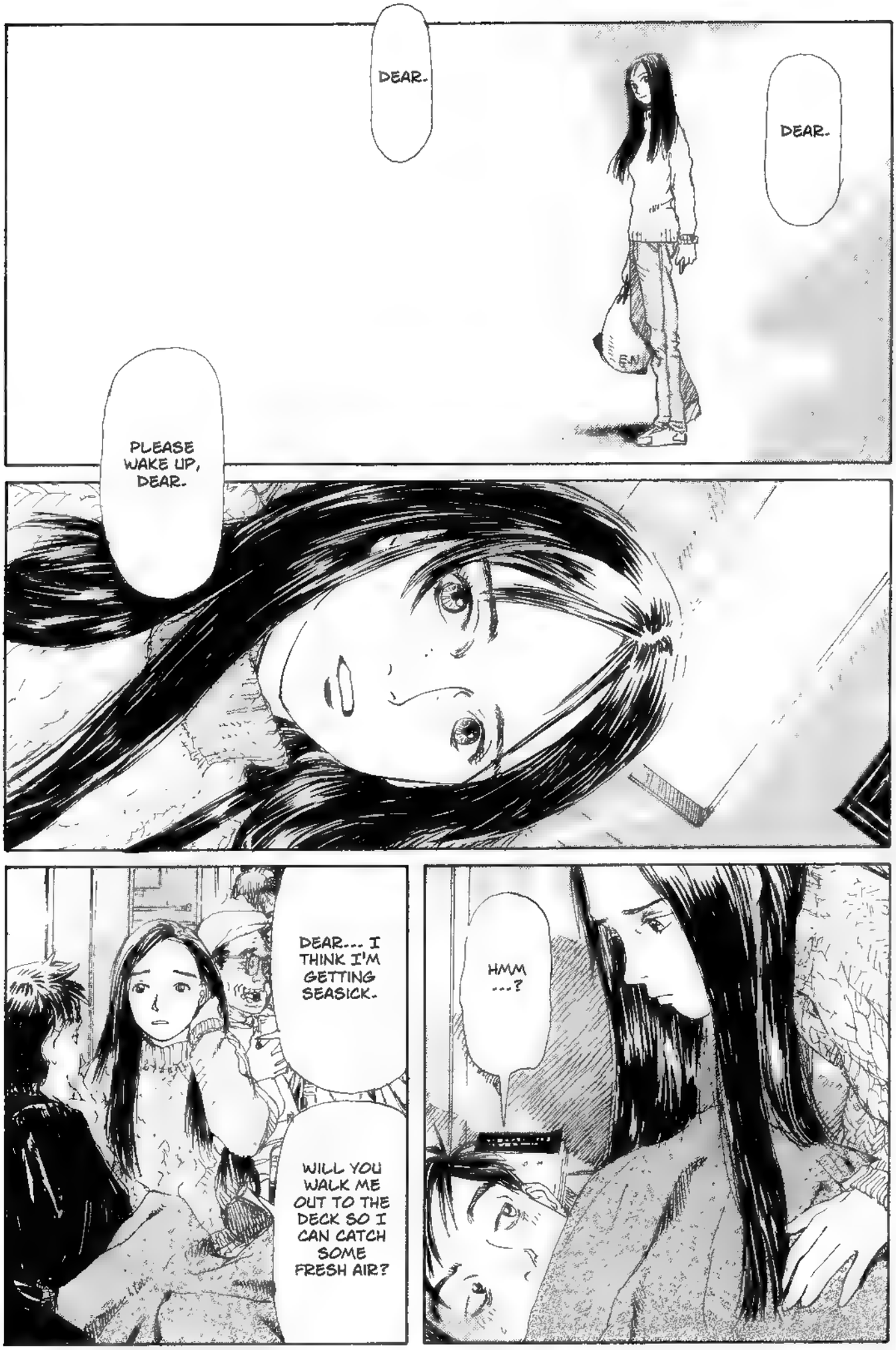
And being the impulsive, compulsive person that I am, I kept falling in love, and kept getting rejected.
But I was still an adolescent, and my thoughts and actions were still very green and weak.
In the end, my pride was flattened worse than a pancake.
西島町二丁目

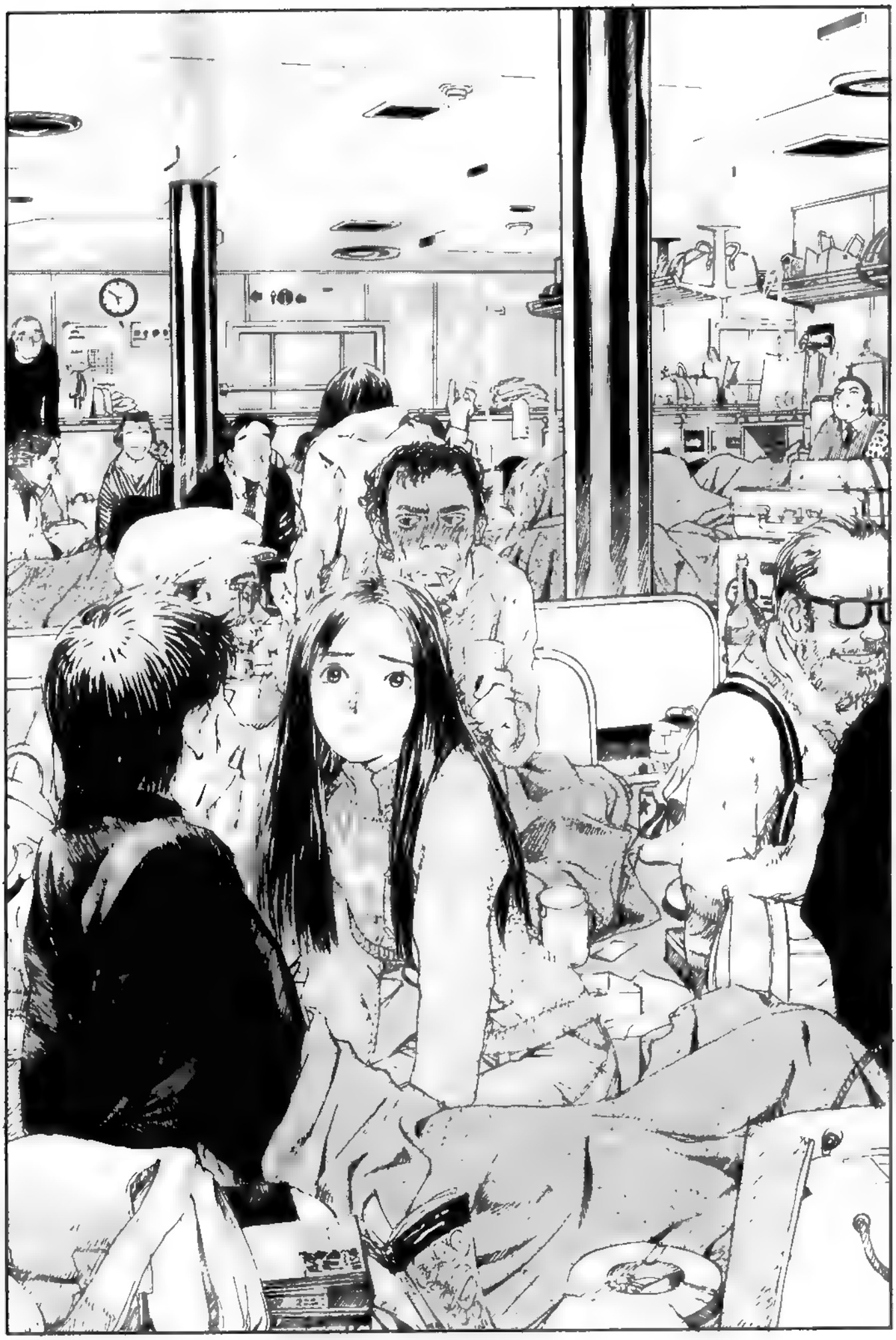


Name tag: Ikeda

...and this umpteenth rejection had made me so miserable, I had to flee home and head out on a trip.
My heart had just received a fresh new scar...

I just took all the money I'd saved up from working part-time jobs, and traveled unknown lands with no purpose in mind...
It wasn't anything fancy, like a "sentimental journey."
And once my wallet began to thin out, I boarded the ferry to return home.


DEAR.
DEAR.
PLEASE WAKE UP, DEAR.
DEAR... I THINK I'M GETTING SEASICK.
WILL YOU WALK ME OUT TO THE DECK SO I CAN CATCH SOME FRESH AIR?
HMM ...?

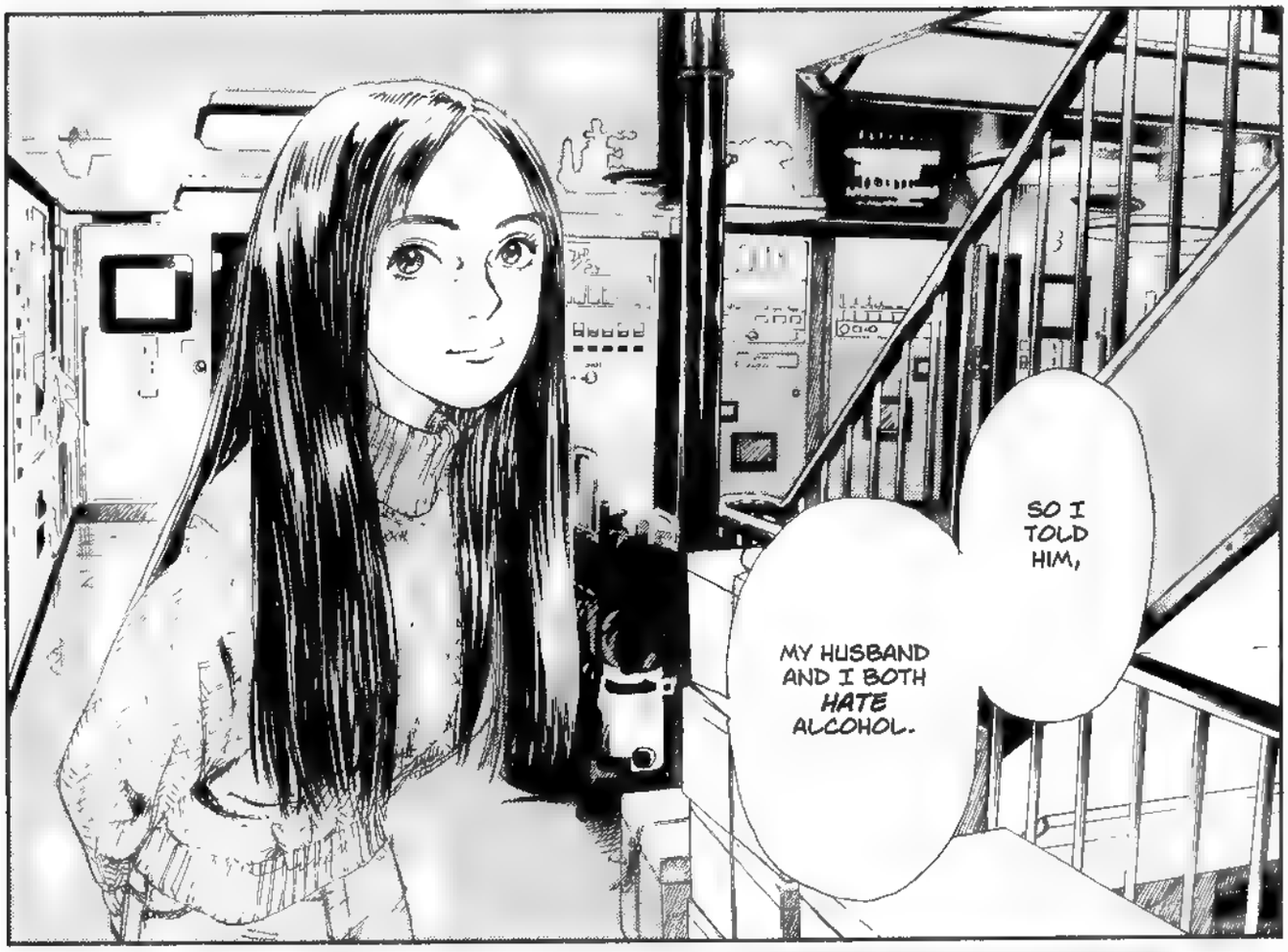


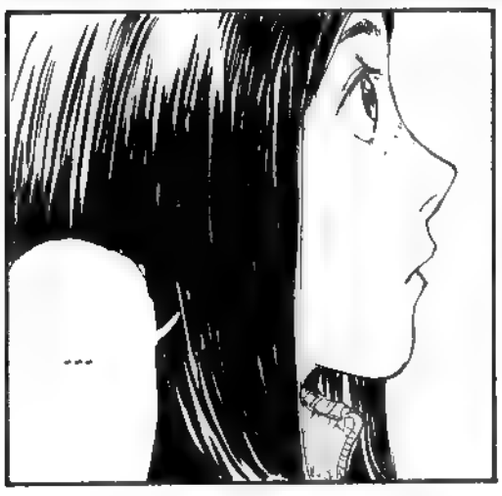
O-OHH... THAT'S NOT GOOD.
SURE I WILL.
9

HEH-
HEH-
HEH-

I'M SORRY
I MUST'VE
SURPRISED
YOU.

HE KEPT TELLING ME TO HAVE A DRINK.
BUT THAT DRUNK OLD MAN NEXT TO ME STARTED BOTHERING ME AFTER YOU WENT TO SLEEP.


SO I TOLD HIM,
MY HUSBAND AND I BOTH HATE ALCOHOL.


...

SO YOU MARRIED YOUNG, HUH.
WOW...

AH-
HAH-
HAH-
HAH-
HAH!
Y-
YOU'RE
...
=PFFT=
AH-
HAH-
HAH-
HAH!
...A VERY
HONEST
PERSON,
AREN'T YOU
?

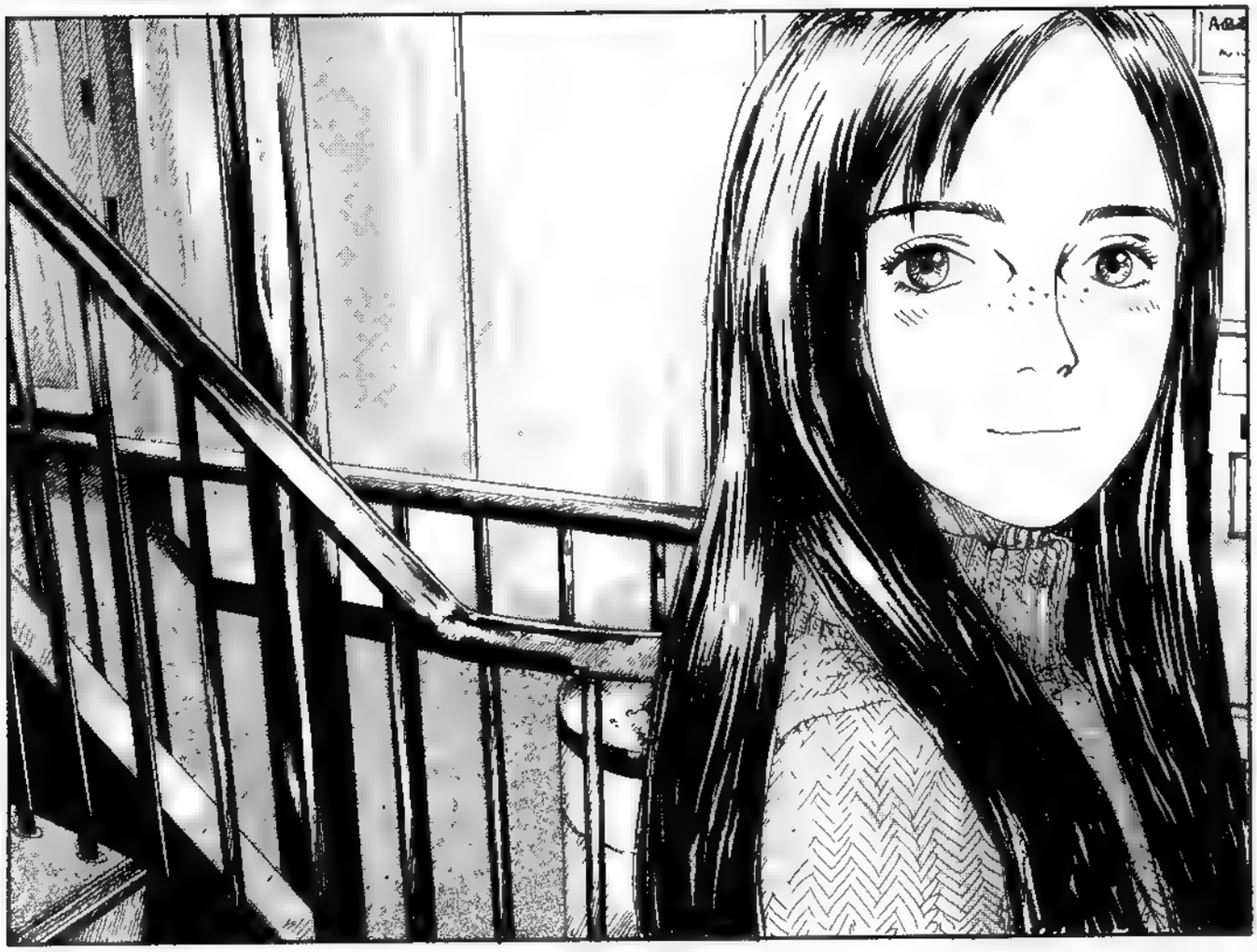
I WAS TALKING ABOUT YOU WHEN I SAID "MY HUSBAND."
THAT DRUNK WOULDN'T HAVE LEFT ME ALONE UNLESS I TOLD HIM SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
HEY... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
MAN, I FEEL DUMB.
HEH-HEH!

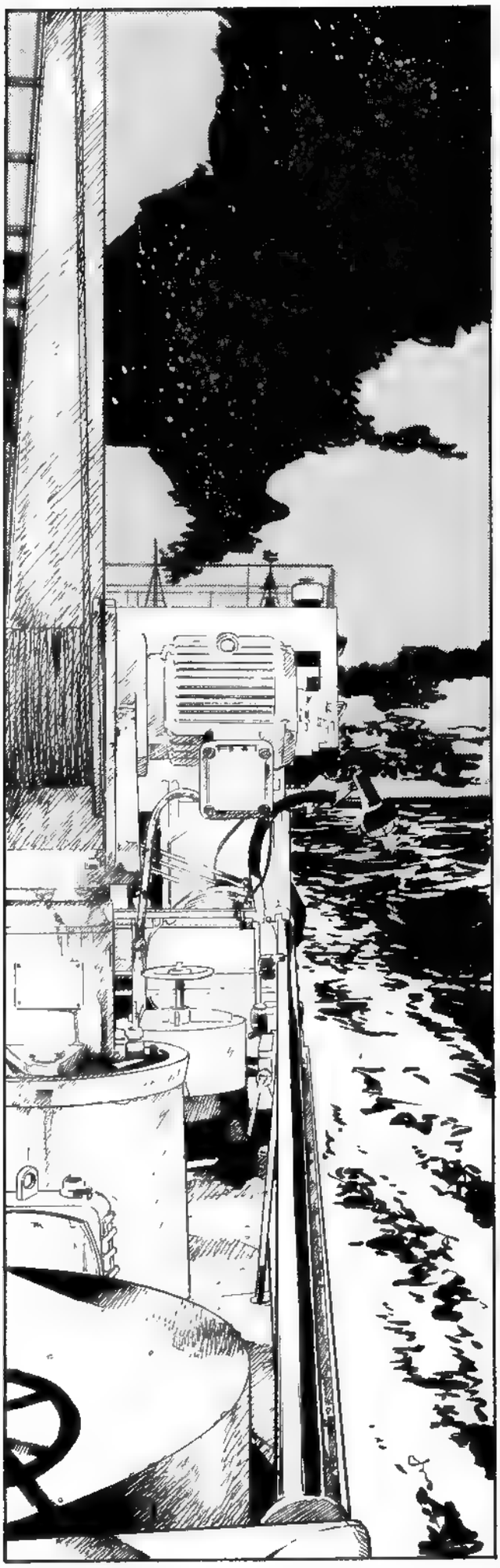
BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO CALL YOU.
WHO CARES ABOUT NAMES? THEY'RE JUST LABELS ANYWAY.
YOUR INITIALS ARE E.N., RIGHT?
LET'S SEE...
IF IT'S E.N., THEN...
EMANON.
YOU CAN CALL ME EMANON.

Memories of Emanon

6:03 PM

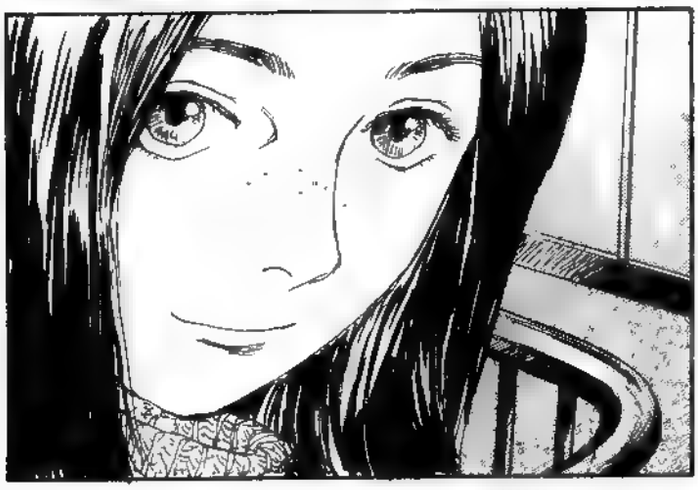
EMANON
...?
EMA NON
...?





IT'S THE ANANYM OF "NONAME."
EMANON.

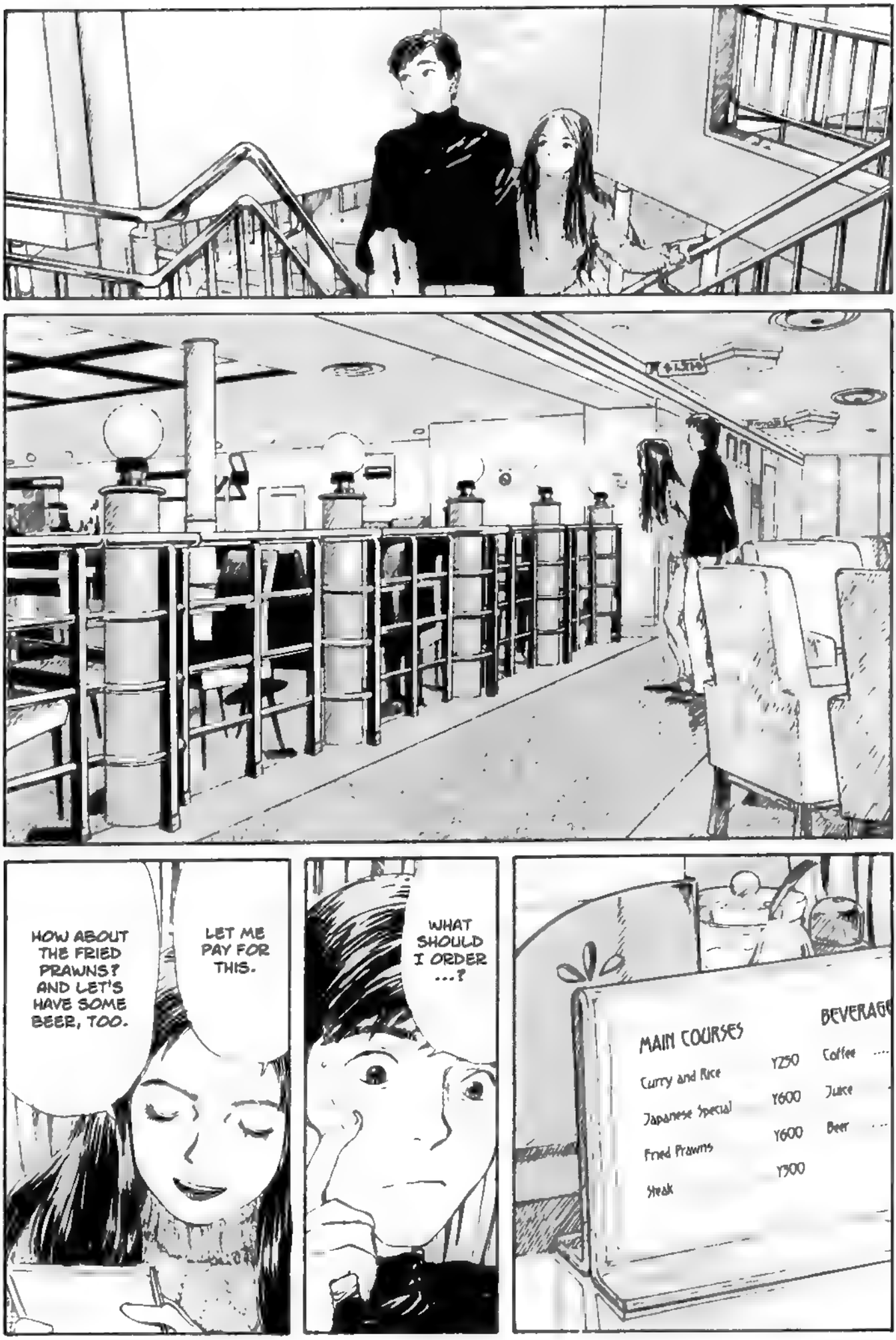
...



ひく
PULL
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO CATCH SOME FRESH AIR OUT HERE...?
HEY...
H-

YOU'LL FREEZE TO DEATH.
YOU WERE SERIOUS ABOUT GOING OUT ON THE DECK?
...
DINNER IS NOW BEING SERVED IN THE CABIN DINING HALL.
ATTENTION TO ALL PASSENGERS...

W-WELL THEN---
WHAT DO YOU SAY THE YOUNG MARRIED COUPLE HAVE DINNER TOGETHER?
YES.
LET'S DO THAT.
THE DOORS WILL CLOSE AT 9 O'CLOCK.
WE URGE YOU TO MAKE YOUR WAY THERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
tellwer

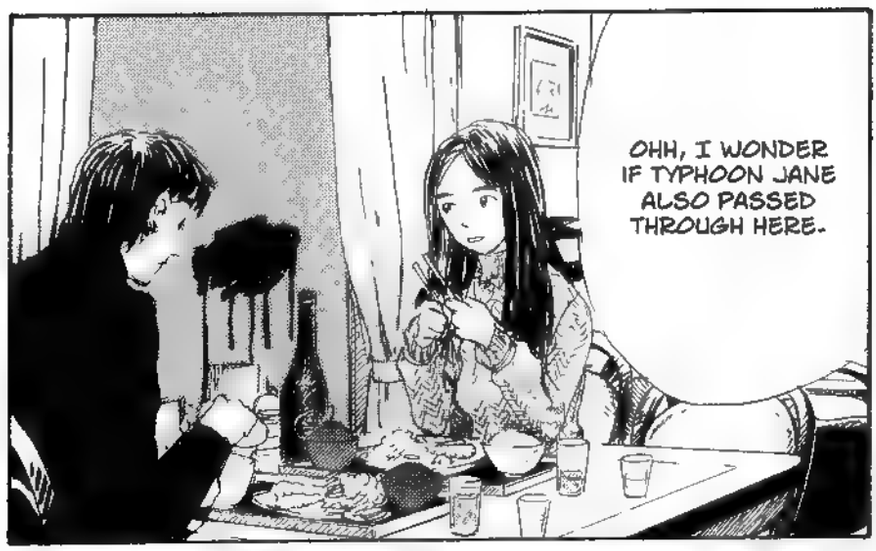

LET ME PAY FOR THIS.
HOW ABOUT THE FRIED PRAWNS? AND LET'S HAVE SOME BEER, TOO.
WHAT SHOULD I ORDER ...?
MAIN COURSES
Curry and Rice ¥250
Japanese Special ¥600
Fried Prawns ¥600
Steak ¥500
BEVERAGE
Coffee ....
Juice ....
Beer ....

?
I THOUGHT YOU LEFT THE CABIN BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T WANT TO DRINK.
I DON'T MIND IF IT'S BEER.
THE FOOD STAMPS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER.
YOU NEED TO PAY IN ADVANCE.
OH, ALL RIGHT.

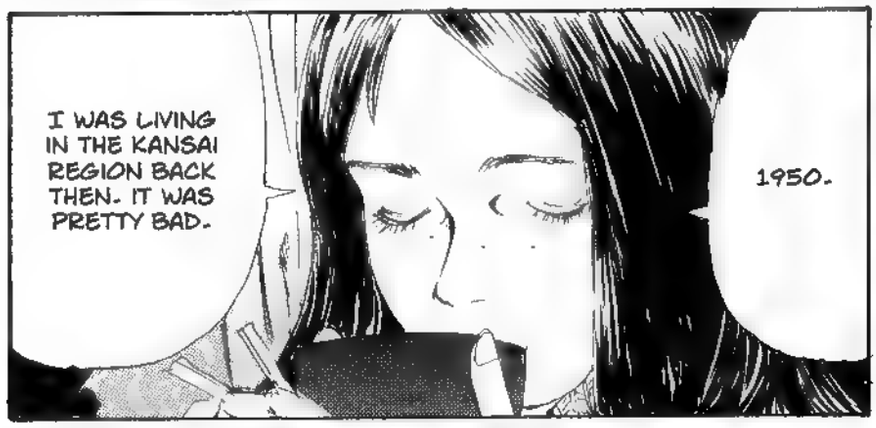
EMANON

RIGHT?
WHERE ARE YOU HEADED?
...
...
ARE YOU A STUDENT?

THE PRAWNS ARE HERE.
UMM ...
WH-WHO KNOWS...
I WONDER WHERE WE ARE RIGHT NOW.


OHH, I WONDER IF TYPHOON JANE ALSO PASSED THROUGH HERE.

TYPHOON JANE...? WHEN WAS THAT?

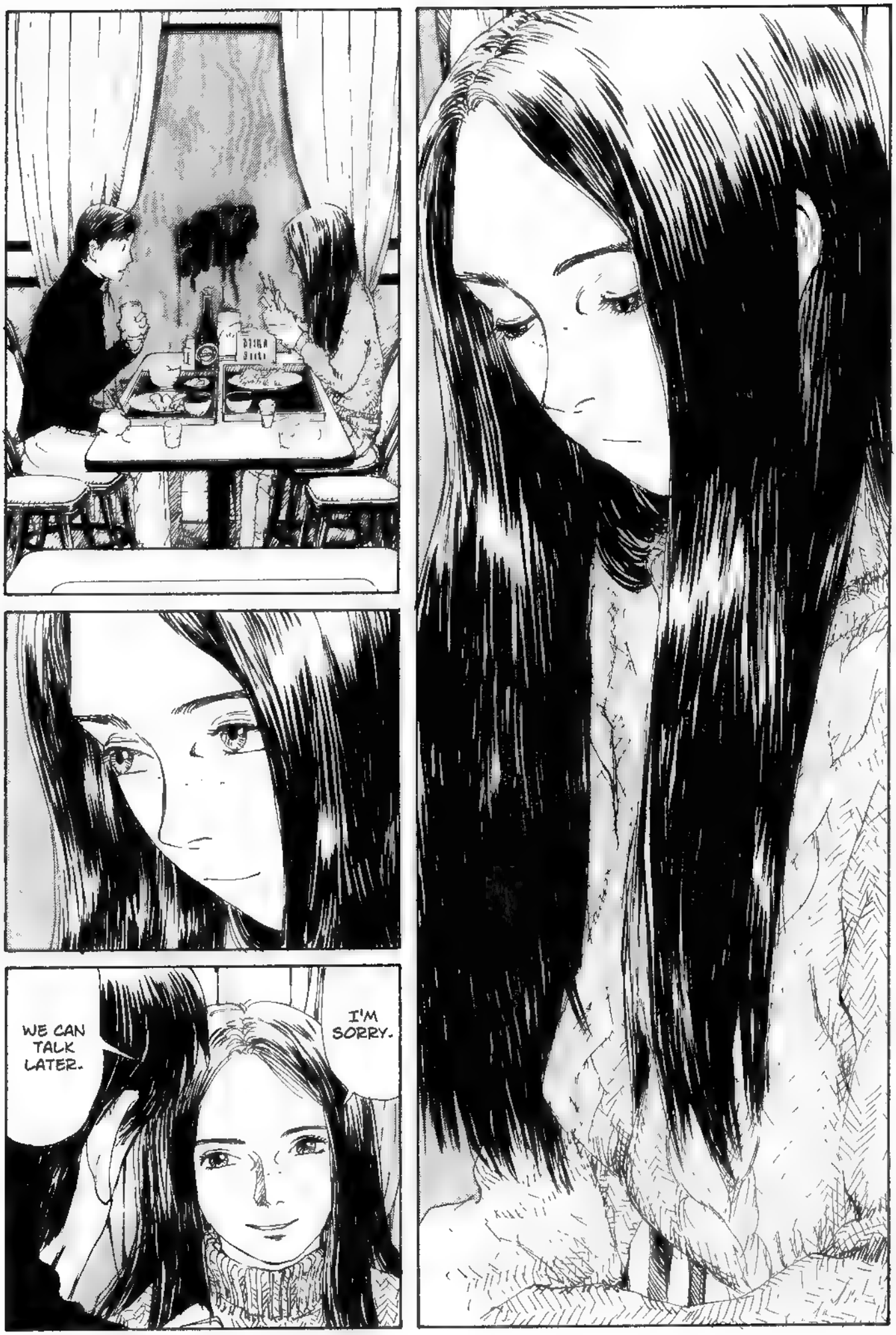

I WAS LIVING IN THE KANSAI REGION BACK THEN. IT WAS PRETTY BAD.
1950.

SO YOU STILL REMEMBER SOMETHING FROM 17 YEARS AGO, HUH. YOU MUST'VE BEEN REALLY SCARED.
...
I WAS THREE YEARS OLD WHEN THAT HAPPENED.

MAYBE WE'RE AROUND THE KII PENIN-SULA.
YOU KNOW, THE PLACE WHERE ALL THE TYPHOONS PASS THROUGH ...?

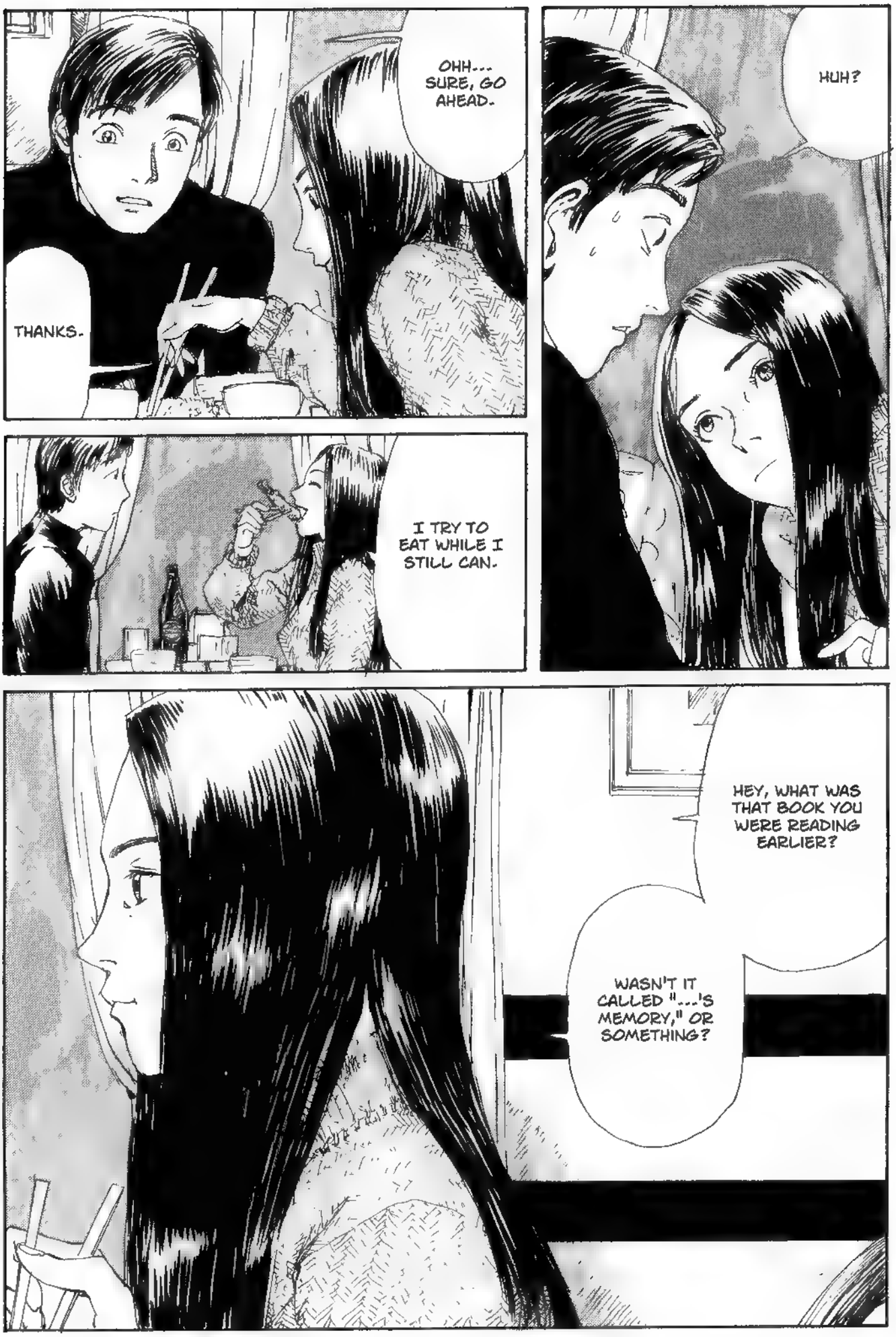
THE WORST ONE HAPPENED WHEN I WAS IN NAGASAKI.
I WASN'T THAT SCARED. WE WEREN'T EVEN HIT THE HARDEST.
WOW, NAGASAKI TOO, HUH?
AND WHEN DID THAT ONE HAPPEN?
OVER 10,000 PEOPLE DIED IN THAT STORM...
AROUND 1828...
WHEN VON SIEBOLD* WAS THERE, SO...

*Philipp Franz Balthasar von Siebold. A German physician who lived from 1823 to 1829 and from 1859 to 1862 in Japan. He was the first European to teach Western medicine in Japan.


WE CAN TALK LATER.
I'M SORRY.

UMM

UH---


OHH... SURE, GO AHEAD.
THANKS.
HUH?
I TRY TO EAT WHILE I STILL CAN.
HEY, WHAT WAS THAT BOOK YOU WERE READING EARLIER?
WASN'T IT CALLED "...'S MEMORY," OR SOMETHING?

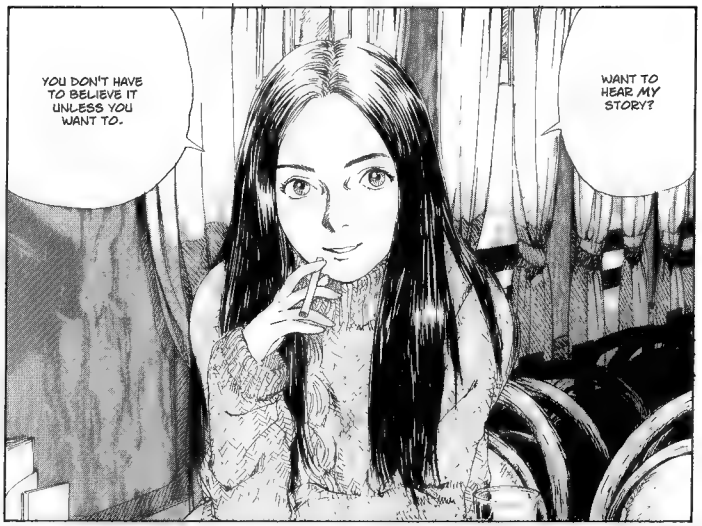
"...'S MEMORY."
WHAT'S IT ABOUT?
LIKE IF I WERE TO COPY MY MEMORIES ONTO YOUR BRAIN.
IT'S A STORY ABOUT TRANSFERRING MEMORIES ONTO OTHER PEOPLE.
IT'S CALLED "HAUSER'S MEMORY."
SOUNDS INTERESTING.
WELL, ACTUALLY, I'M STILL IN THE MIDDLE OF READING IT.
SO THE NAZIS GET INVOLVED WITH THIS, AND...

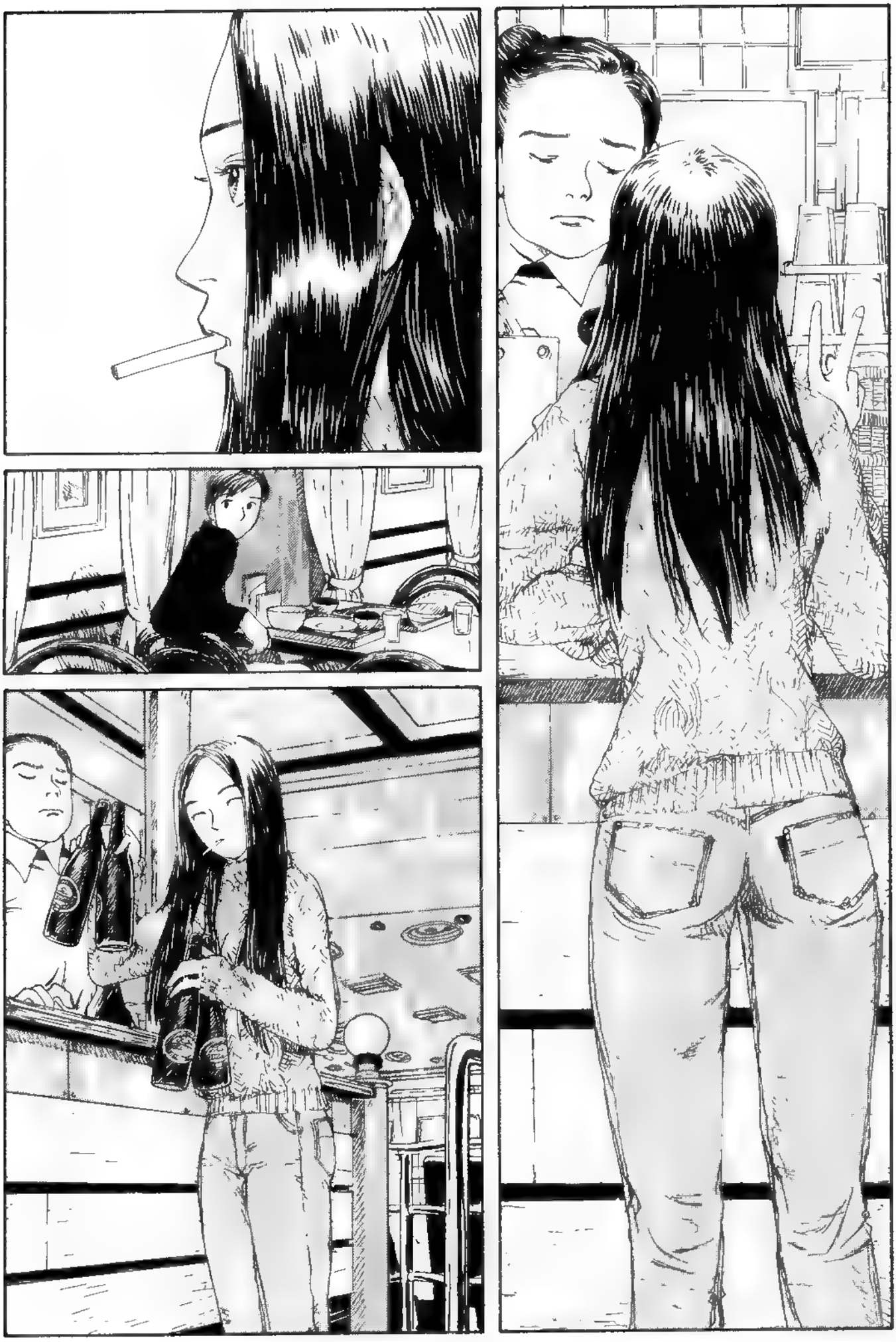
MEMORY TENDS TO BE THE ACCUMULATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE ITSELF...
...SO IF MEMORIES GET TRANSFERRED, IT MIGHT EVEN CHANGE THE PERSON'S ENTIRE PERSONALITY.
MEMORY IS SUPPOSED TO BE CONNECTED AS A SINGLE LINE, NOT A SCATTERED SET OF DOTS...
BUT THEY MIGHT JUST BE FRAGMENTS THAT THE BRAIN RECOGNIZES AS A SINGLE LINE...
...SO THERE'S A CHANCE YOU MIGHT NOT EVEN NOTICE ANOTHER PERSON'S MEMORIES SLIPPING INTO YOUR OWN.
ON THE OTHER HAND, THE PERSON WITH THE NEW MEMORIES MIGHT NOT NOTICE THAT THEIR PERSONALITY HAS CHANGED, EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE AROUND THEM SEES THE DIFFERENCE.
OR THE MEMORIES MIGHT CLASH, AND REFUSE TO BECOME ONE.
OH... IS THIS NOT INTERESTING TO YOU?
OH, NO!
IT SOUNDS *VERY* INTER-ESTING.

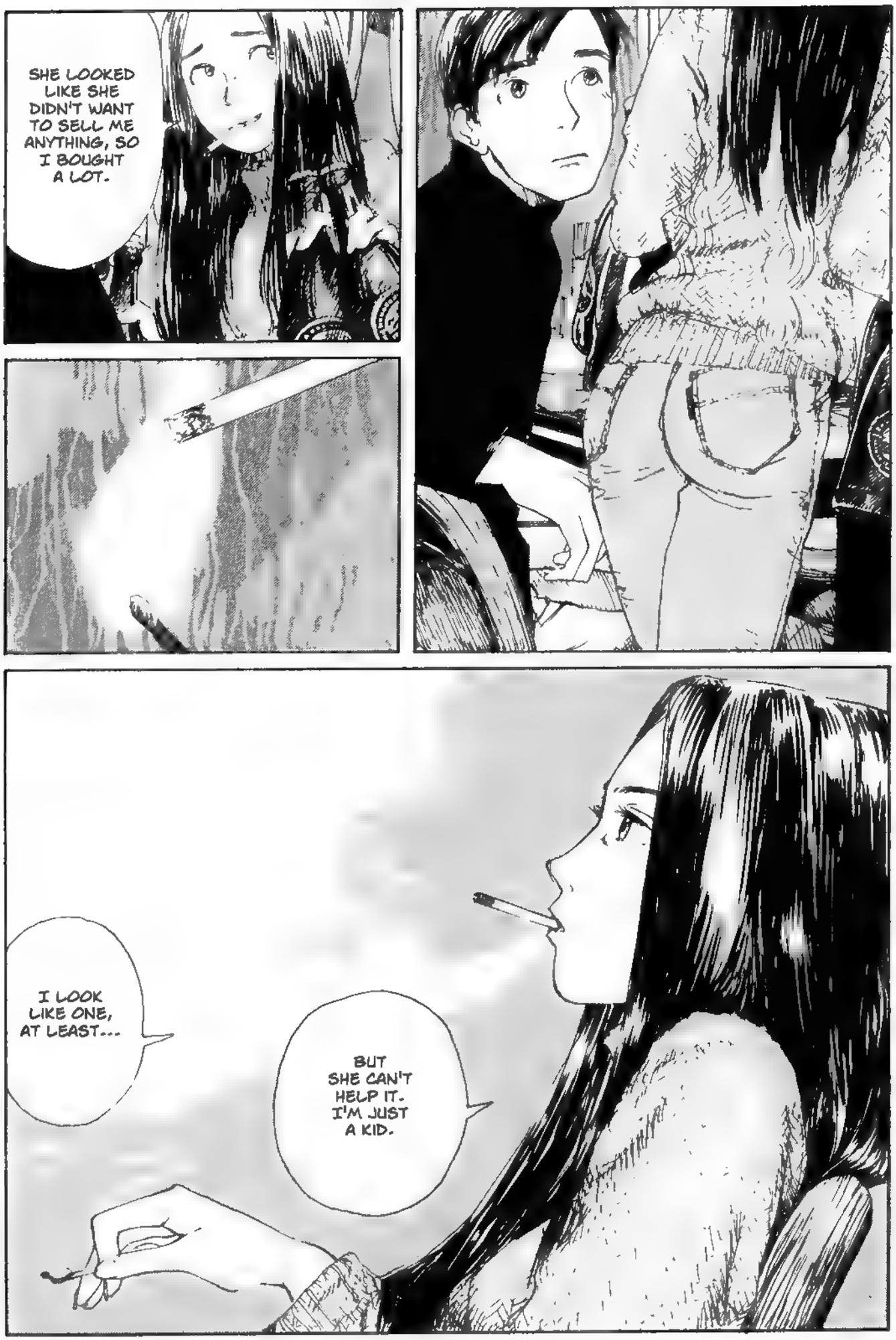
YOU'RE REALLY INTO SCI-FI, AREN'T YOU?
ER...
?
I TOOK A QUICK PEEK IN YOUR BAG WHILE YOU WERE ASLEEP.
ALL THE OTHER BOOKS YOU HAVE ARE ALSO SCI-FI NOVELS, AREN'T THEY?
SO YOU'RE INTO SCI-FI TOO?
NO... NOT REALLY, BUT...

...TO ACCEPT ANY KIND OF STORY, NO MATTER HOW STRANGE IT SOUNDS. AM I RIGHT?
I TAKE IT YOUR MIND IS FLEXIBLE ENOUGH...
UH...
WELL...
I GUESS I'M MORE USED TO STRANGE STORIES THAN OTHER PEOPLE.
MOST STORIES WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME, I THINK.
YEAH.
BUT BEFORE, YOU...

OH...
I'LL GO GET ANOTHER BEER.

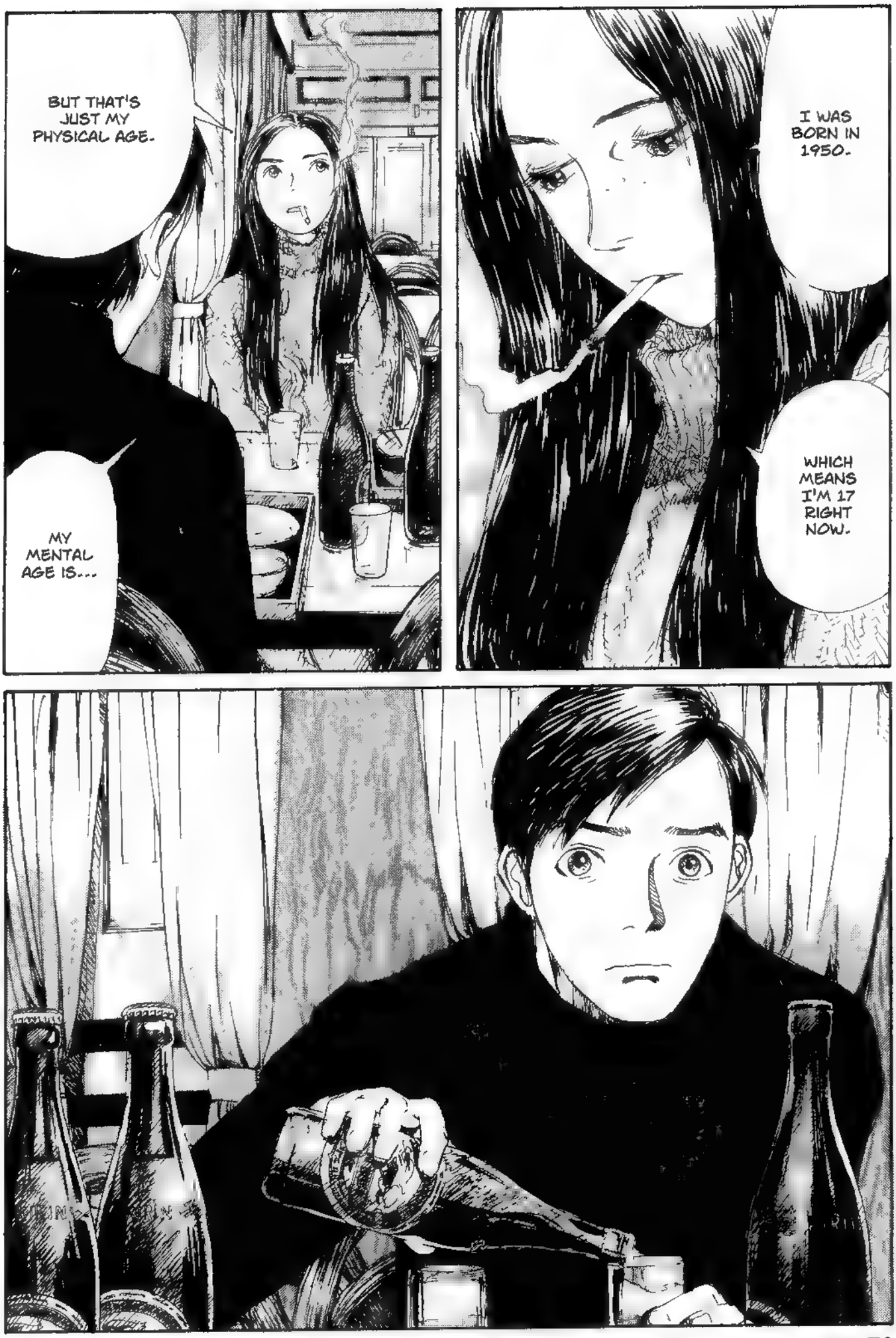

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE IT UNLESS YOU WANT TO.
WANT TO HEAR MY STORY?




SHE LOOKED LIKE SHE DIDN'T WANT TO SELL ME ANYTHING, SO I BOUGHT A LOT.
I LOOK LIKE ONE, AT LEAST...
BUT SHE CAN'T HELP IT. I'M JUST A KID.

YOU LOOK LIKE ONE...?

Memories of Emanon
Before 7 PM

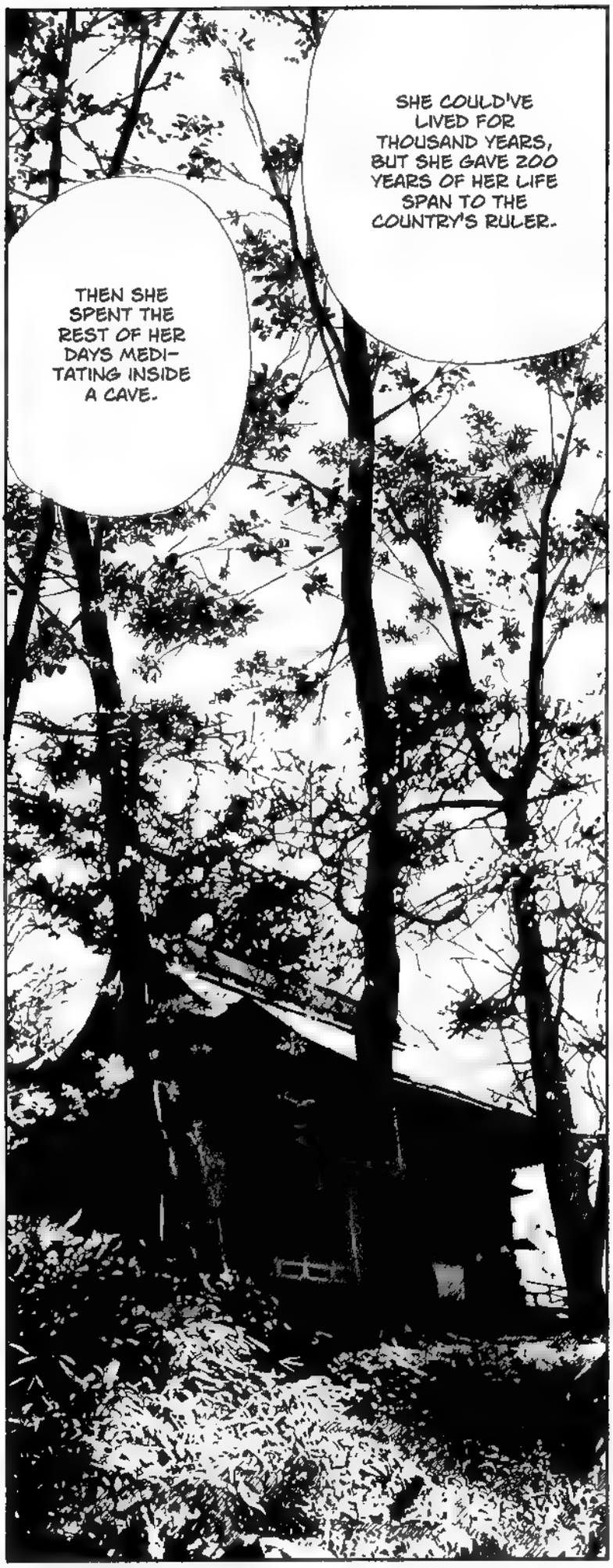

BUT THAT'S JUST MY PHYSICAL AGE.
MY MENTAL AGE IS...
I WAS BORN IN 1950.
WHICH MEANS I'M 17 RIGHT NOW.

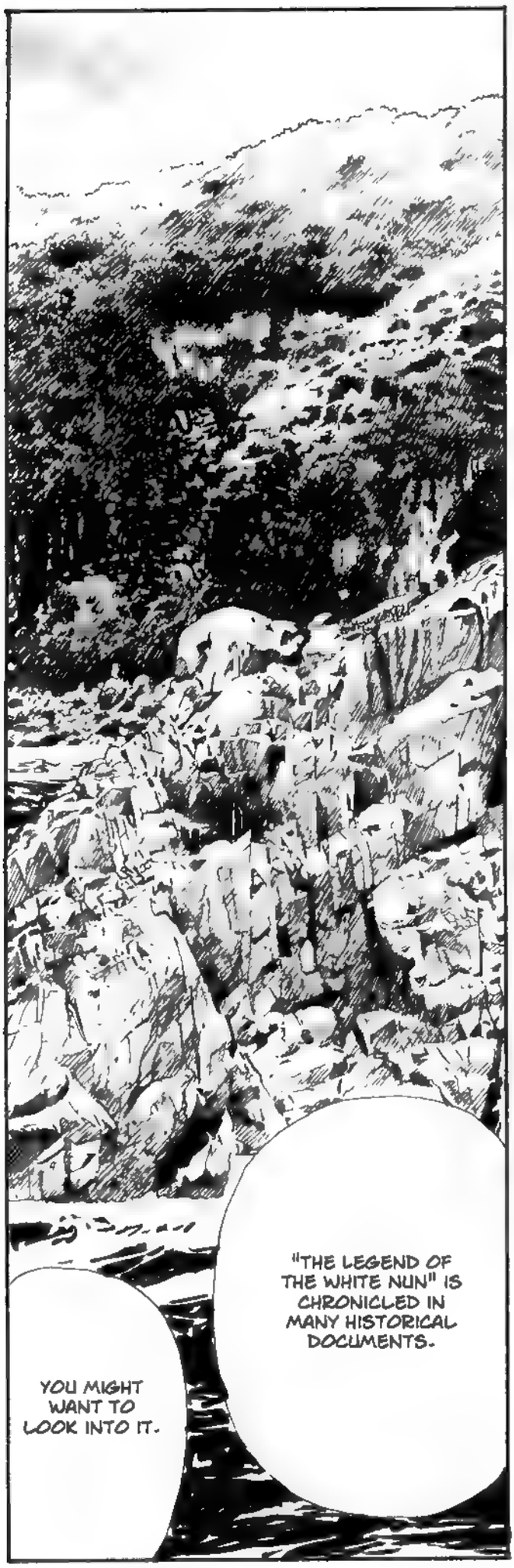
MY MENTAL AGE IS...
...PROBABLY AROUND 3 BILLION YEARS.
BUT I STILL LOOK LIKE A 17-YEAR-OLD...
SO YOU'VE BECOME IMMORTAL BY RESTORING YOUR YOUTH...?
LIKE GILGAMESH, IN THE LEGENDS ...?

THE STORY OF METHUSELAH. FROM GENESIS. HE'S SAID TO HAVE LIVED FOR 969 YEARS...
THEN IT MUST BE YOUR LIFE SPAN.
NO NO NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
AND I'M NOT IMMORTAL. THAT'S A MISUNDER-STANDING.
THERE'S A SIMILAR LEGEND IN JAPAN, TOO.
MERMAID FLESH IS SAID TO BRING LONG LIFE AND ETERNAL YOUTH.
IN WAKASA PROVINCE, THERE'S A STORY ABOUT A GIRL WHO ATE THE FLESH OF A MERMAID, WHICH WAS GIVEN TO HER BY A STRANGE FOREIGNER.
SHE LIVED FOR 800 YEARS WITHOUT AGING AT ALL.

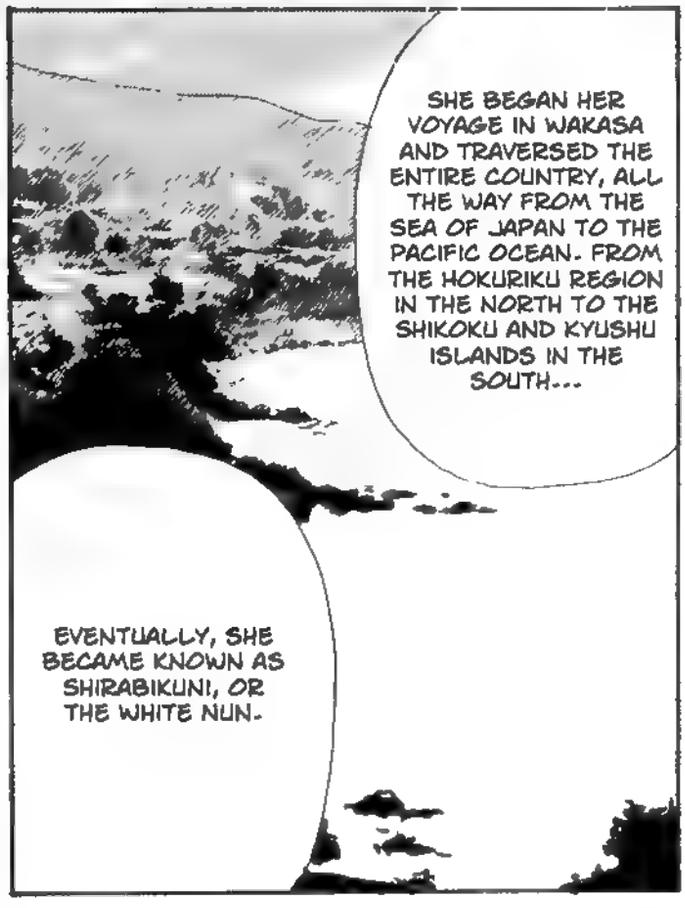
SINCE SHE BORE THE APPEARANCE OF A YOUNG GIRL EVEN AFTER 800 YEARS OF LIFE...
...THE PEOPLE WORSHIPPED HER...

...CALLING HER YAOHIME, OR THE GODDESS OF 800 YEARS.


SHE COULD'VE LIVED FOR THOUSAND YEARS, BUT SHE GAVE 200 YEARS OF HER LIFE SPAN TO THE COUNTRY'S RULER.
THEN SHE SPENT THE REST OF HER DAYS MEDI-TATING INSIDE A CAVE.


"THE LEGEND OF THE WHITE NUN" IS CHRONICLED IN MANY HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS.
YOU MIGHT WANT TO LOOK INTO IT.

YAOHIME WAS AROUND 120 YEARS OF AGE WHEN SHE BECAME A BUDDHIST NUN...
...AND THEREAFTER, SHE JOURNEYED THROUGH THE LANDS FOR CENTURIES.

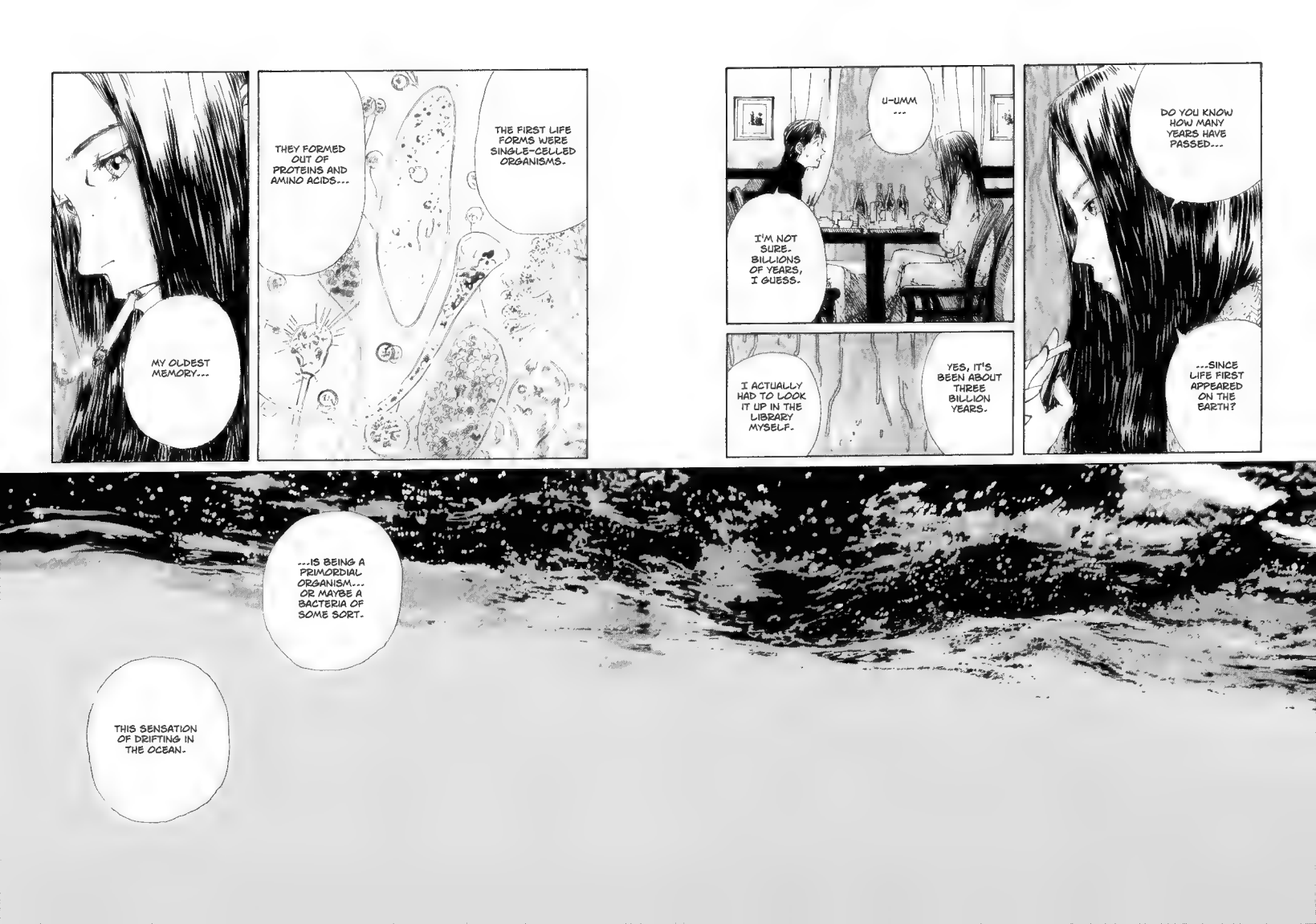

SHE BEGAN HER VOYAGE IN WAKASA AND TRAVERSED THE ENTIRE COUNTRY, ALL THE WAY FROM THE SEA OF JAPAN TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN. FROM THE HOKURIKU REGION IN THE NORTH TO THE SHIKOKU AND KYUSHU ISLANDS IN THE SOUTH...
EVENTUALLY, SHE BECAME KNOWN AS SHIRABIKUNI, OR THE WHITE NUN.

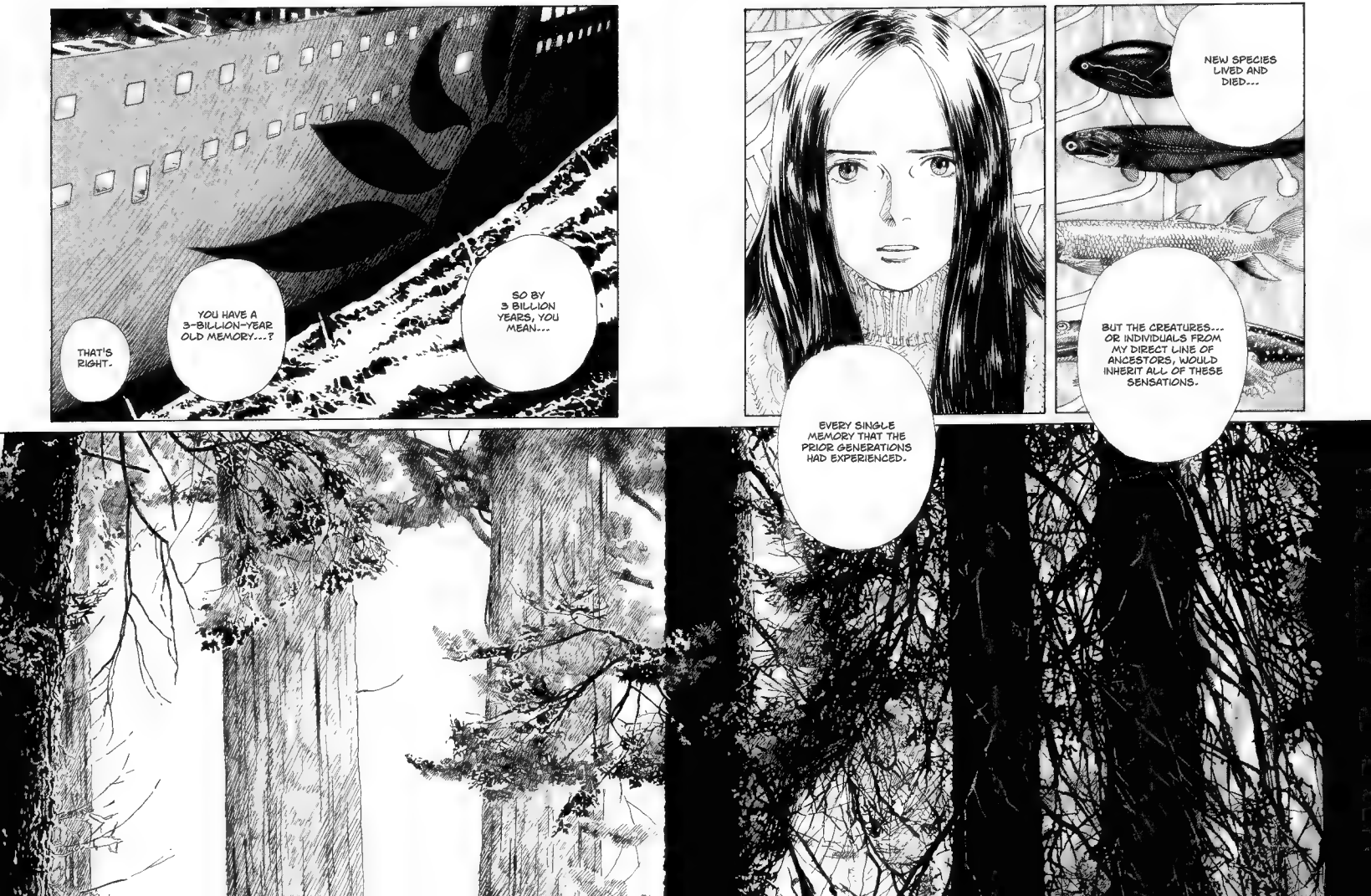
I THINK YAOHIME WAS SAID TO LOOK LIKE AROUND 17 OR 18 YEARS OLD...

...
WELL, SURE, PEOPLE CALLED ME THE WHITE NUN AT ONE POINT, BUT...

I NEVER ATE MERMAID FLESH...
...AND IT'S NOT LIKE I STAYED YOUNG FOREVER, EITHER.
JUST LISTEN AND DON'T JUMP TO CONCLU-SIONS.

I REMEMBER EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED SINCE LIFE FIRST APPEARED ON THE EARTH.
MY MEMORY ENCOMPASSES THE HISTORY OF LIFE ITSELF.
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY BRAIN... THAT I WAS GOING INSANE.
BUT JUDGING FROM THE HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS THAT I'VE READ, MY MEMORY CHECKS OUT PERFECTLY.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHY A HUMAN BEING LIKE ME...
...WOULD EXIST IN THIS WORLD.
IT SCARES ME JUST TO THINK ABOUT IT.


MY OLDEST MEMORY...
THEY FORMED OUT OF PROTEINS AND AMINO ACIDS...
THE FIRST LIFE FORMS WERE SINGLE-CELLED ORGANISMS.
U-UMM ...
I'M NOT SURE. BILLIONS OF YEARS, I GUESS.
I ACTUALLY HAD TO LOOK IT UP IN THE LIBRARY MYSELF.
YES, IT'S BEEN ABOUT THREE BILLION YEARS.
DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY YEARS HAVE PASSED...
...SINCE LIFE FIRST APPEARED ON THE EARTH?
...IS BEING A PRIMORDIAL ORGANISM... OR MAYBE A BACTERIA OF SOME SORT.
THIS SENSATION OF DRIFTING IN THE OCEAN.


THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU HAVE A 3-BILLION-YEAR OLD MEMORY...?
SO BY 3 BILLION YEARS, YOU MEAN...
NEW SPECIES LIVED AND DIED...
BUT THE CREATURES... OR INDIVIDUALS FROM MY DIRECT LINE OF ANCESTORS, WOULD INHERIT ALL OF THESE SENSATIONS.
EVERY SINGLE MEMORY THAT THE PRIOR GENERATIONS HAD EXPERIENCED.

WHEN MY ANCESTOR WAS A FISH, ONE BY ONE, THE OTHERS FELL PREY TO OTHER CREATURES.
BUT MY ANCESTOR WOULD MIRACULOUSLY SURVIVE, EACH AND EVERY TIME.
AMPHIBIAN, REPTILE... IT WAS ALWAYS THE SAME.
I GUESS MY ANCESTORS WERE CONSTANTLY AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE EVOLUTIONARY PROCESS.
IT ALL HAPPENED IN AN INSTANT AFTER WE EVOLVED TO PRIMATES, STANDING ON OUR HIND LEGS AND USING TOOLS.
AN AVALANCHE OF EVOLUTION.
AND ONCE MANKIND ORGANIZED ITSELF INTO COMMUNITIES, CIVILIZATION BEGAN TO GROW AT AN EXPLOSIVE RATE.
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE HUMAN BEHAVIOR HASN'T CHANGED THAT MUCH.
THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT WORDS MAKE IT EASIER TO FIND EXCUSES FOR OUR COMBATIVE INSTINCTS.

BECAUSE I HAVE ALL THE MEMORIES MY MOTHER HAD, RIGHT UP TO THE MOMENT SHE GAVE BIRTH TO ME.
I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT HE WAS LIKE.
HE WASN'T THE TYPE FOR FAMILY AND RESPONSIBILITY.
MY MOTHER DIED WHEN I WAS LITTLE...
...AND MY FATHER LEFT US.
RIGHT AFTER I WAS BORN.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER...?

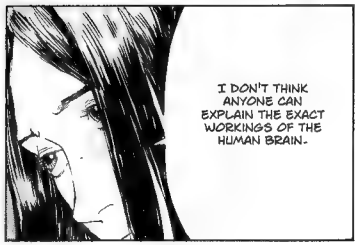
...BUT HUMANS HAVE NO USE FOR MEMORY BEYOND A CERTAIN POINT, RIGHT?
IT'S EASY TO EXPLAIN IT AWAY AS A MUTATION IN THE STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS OF THE DNA...
SOME EXPERIENCES ARE BETTER OFF FORGOTTEN THAN REMEMBERED.

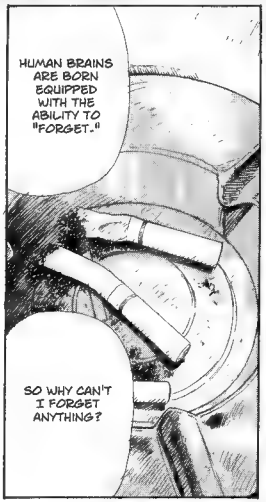
...
I DON'T THINK SO...
IT SOUNDS MORE LIKE AN AMAZING SUPER-POWER.
SUPERPOWER...? IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT.

I THINK THIS IS A TYPE OF GENETIC DISEASE.

BUT IF THE MEMORIES OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S EXPERIENCES ARE CONTINUOUSLY BEING INCORPORATED INTO THE DNA, AND THEN COPIED ONTO THE DESCENDANTS...
...IT HAS TO BE A DOMINANT MUTANT GENE, RIGHT?

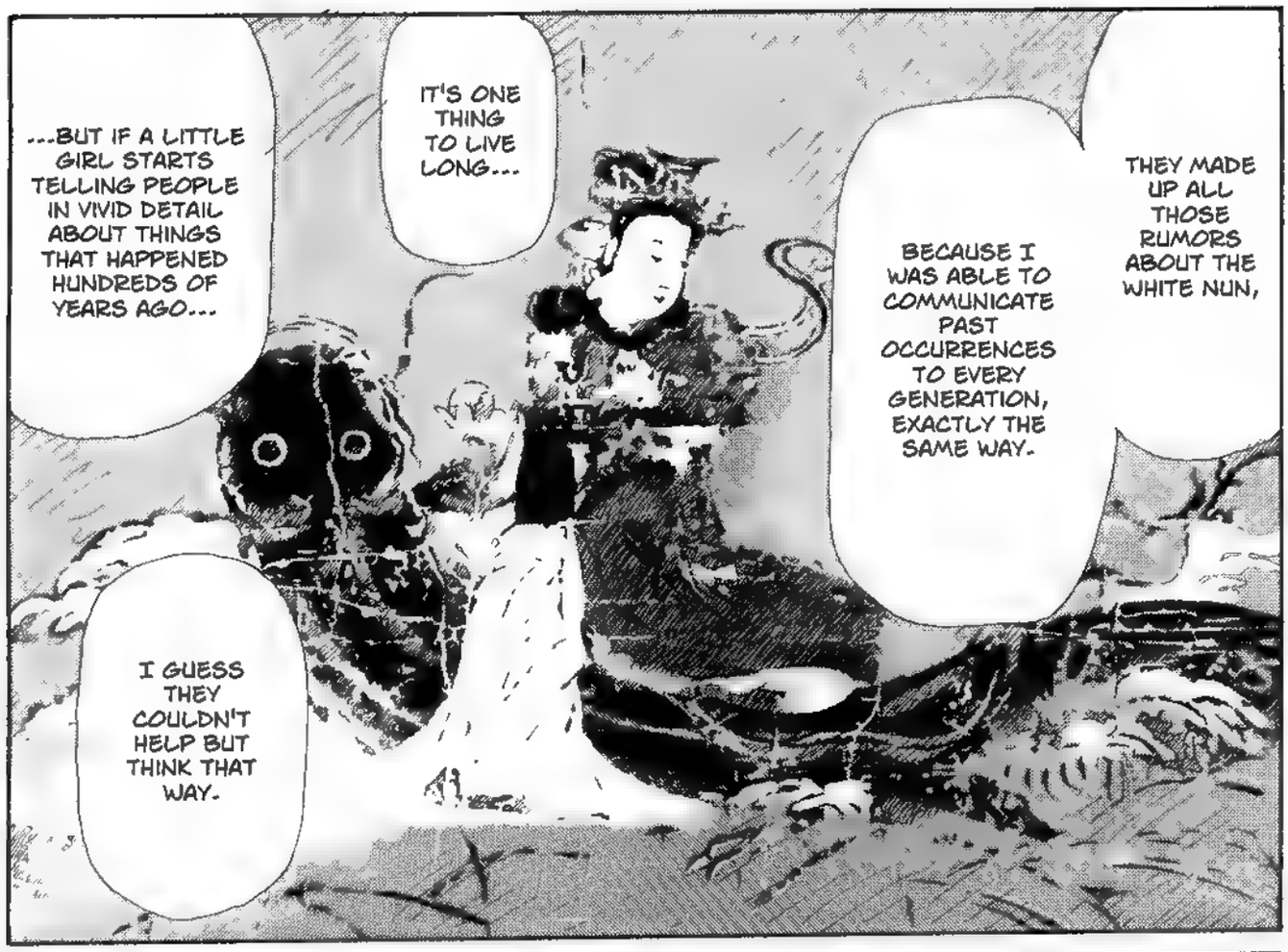
THAT DOESN'T MEAN IT HAS TO BE A DISEASE...

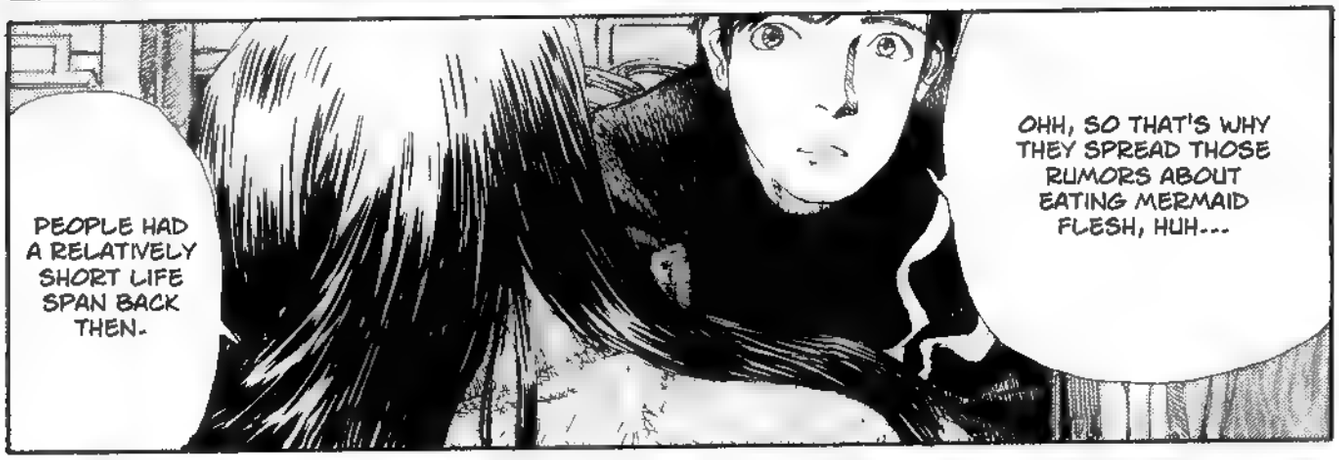

I DON'T THINK ANYONE CAN EXPLAIN THE EXACT WORKINGS OF THE HUMAN BRAIN.


HUMAN BRAINS ARE BORN EQUIPPED WITH THE ABILITY TO "FORGET."
SO WHY CAN'T I FORGET ANYTHING?

BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK IT FEELS LIKE TO HAVE TO REMEMBER TERRIBLE, ABOMINABLE THINGS FOR BILLIONS OF YEARS?
DO YOU THINK THAT'S A SUPERPOWER?

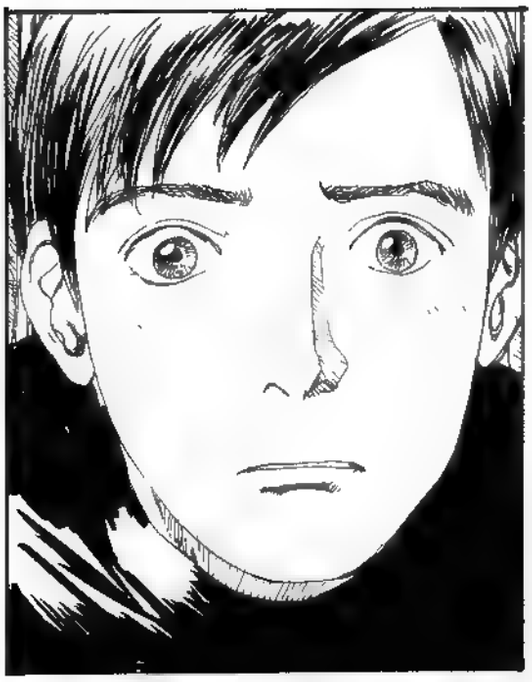
...
NO, ONLY ONE PERSON IN EACH GENERATION IS BORN WITH THIS DISEASE.
SO...
THERE ARE OTHER PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO ALSO HAVE THIS KIND OF ABILITY?
LAGER
SO I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO WOULD HAVE AN ABILITY LIKE THIS.
DOES ANYONE ELSE KNOW ABOUT THIS?
NO.
NO ONE DOES.

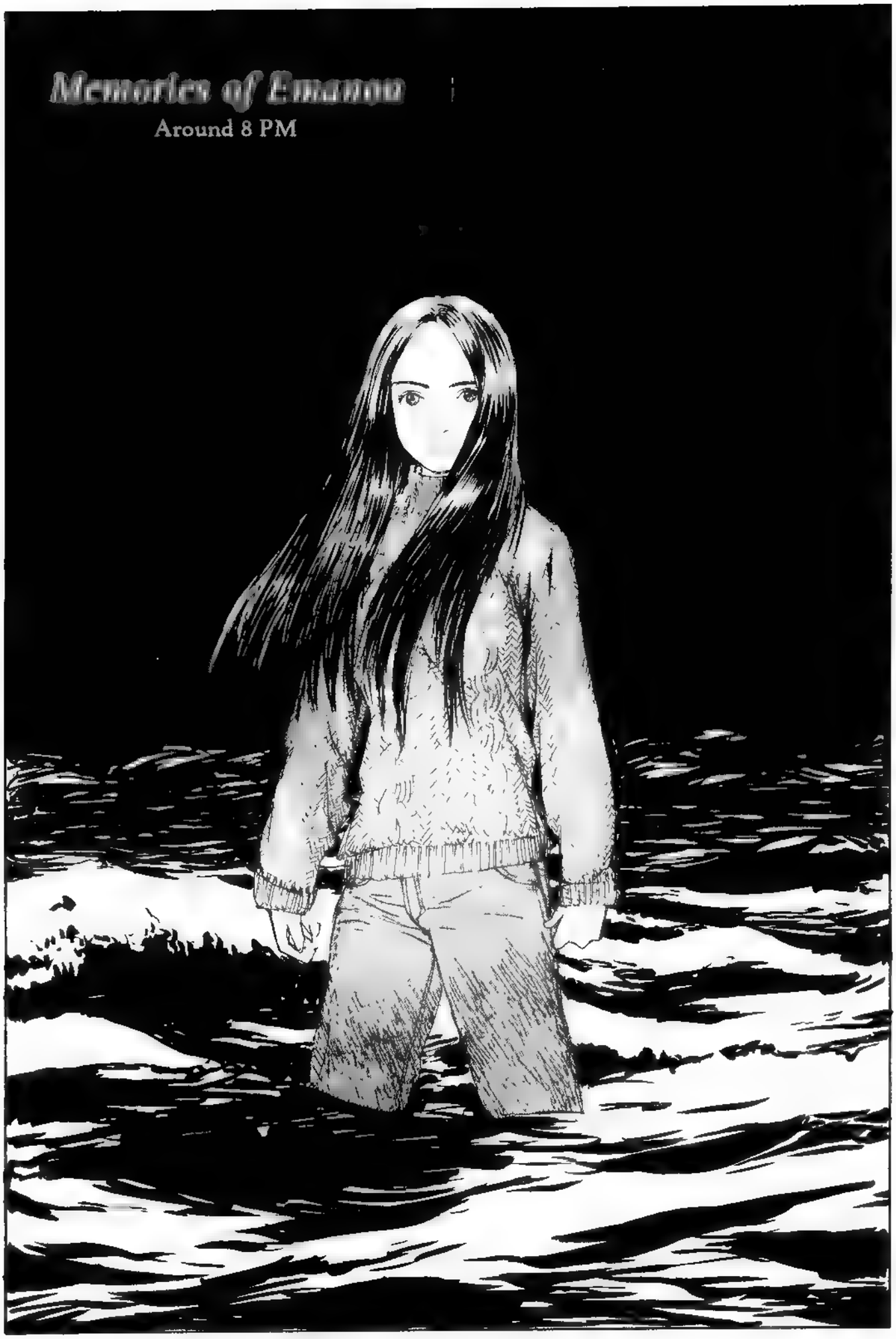

...BUT IF A LITTLE GIRL STARTS TELLING PEOPLE IN VIVID DETAIL ABOUT THINGS THAT HAPPENED HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO...
IT'S ONE THING TO LIVE LONG...
BECAUSE I WAS ABLE TO COMMUNICATE PAST OCCURRENCES TO EVERY GENERATION, EXACTLY THE SAME WAY.
THEY MADE UP ALL THOSE RUMORS ABOUT THE WHITE NUN,
I GUESS THEY COULDN'T HELP BUT THINK THAT WAY.


PEOPLE HAD A RELATIVELY SHORT LIFE SPAN BACK THEN.
OHH, SO THAT'S WHY THEY SPREAD THOSE RUMORS ABOUT EATING MERMAID FLESH, HUH...

...EVER SINCE.
THAT'S WHY I HAVEN'T TOLD ANYONE...

I DON'T WANT TO GET TREATED LIKE A MONSTER AGAIN.
BUT... YOU TOLD ME.




Memories of Emanon
Around 8 PM

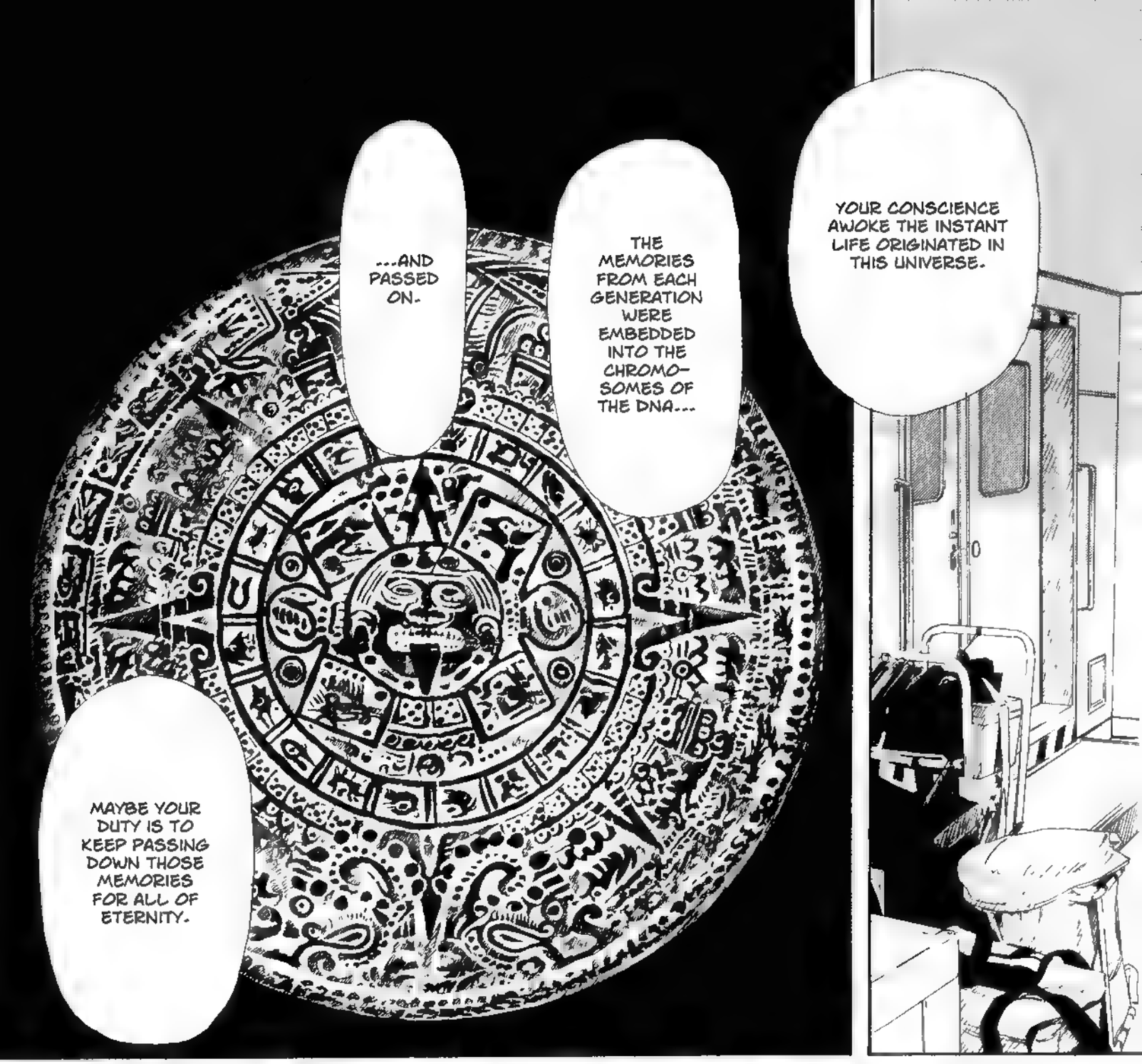
THE REASON I TOLD YOU...
...IS BECAUSE ...

YOUR AGE, YOUR FACE...
EVERYTHING.
HE WAS A BIT SHY, BUT HE WAS A VERY KIND PERSON...
...YOU RESEMBLE MY HUSBAND. THE HUSBAND I HAD DURING THE EDO PERIOD, I MEAN.
YES.
THAT'S WHY I SAID YOU WERE MY HUSBAND BACK IN THE CABIN.
I SEE... WE REALLY WERE ALIKE, HUH.
YOU REMIND ME OF HIM...
BUT HE CONTRACTED CHOLERA AND DIED.

AND ALSO BECAUSE I FOUND OUT THAT YOU LIKED SCI-FI.
I WANTED TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS.
THOSE ARE THE TWO REASONS WHY.
IT MADE ME THINK...
YOU'VE HEARD OF THE CYCLE OF REIN-CARNATION, RIGHT?
MAYBE YOU'RE HIS REINCAR-NATION.
IF IT'D BEEN ONE OR THE OTHER, I WOULDN'T HAVE TOLD YOU.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY MY THOUGHTS ...?

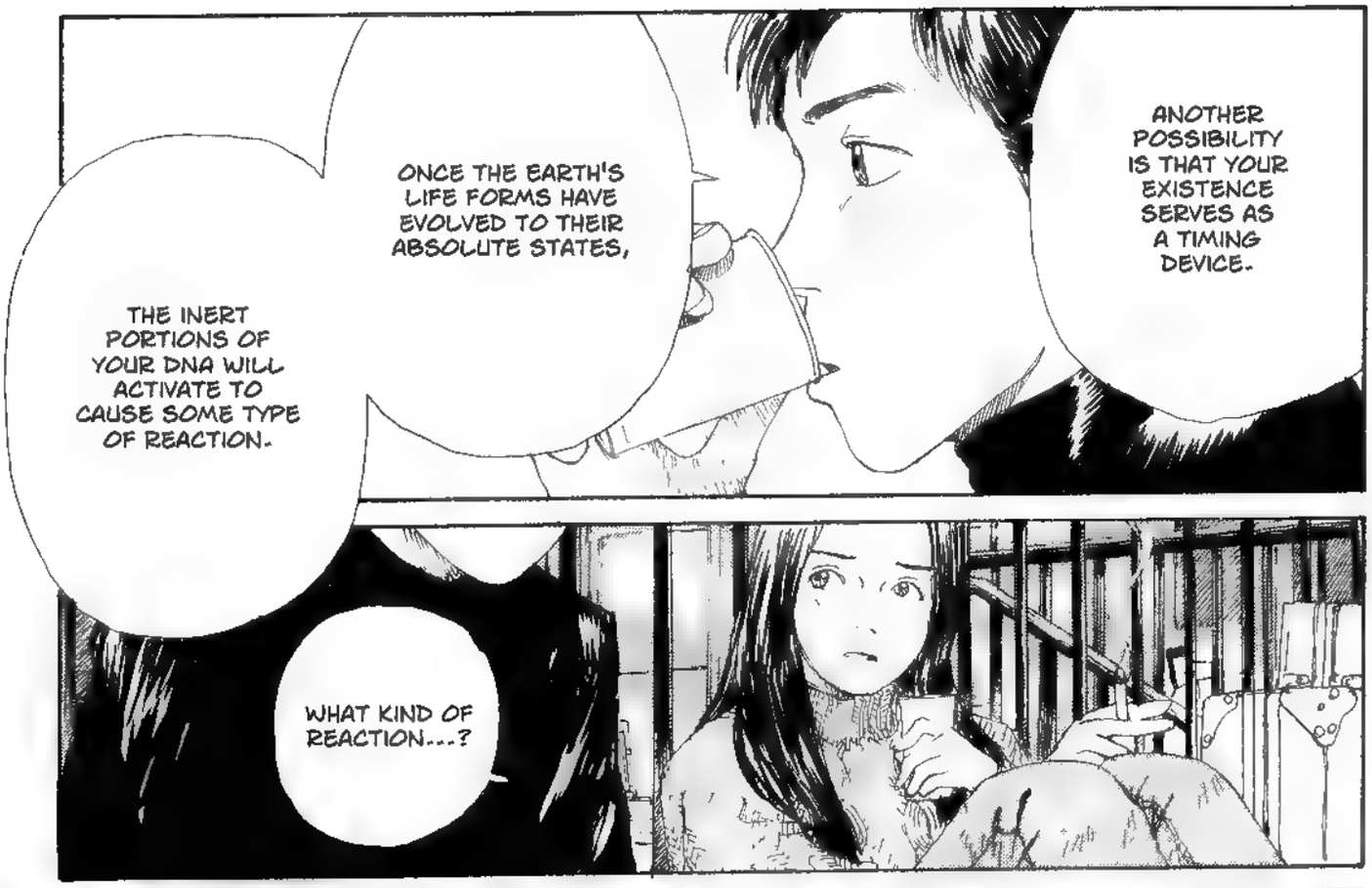
WHY YOU THINK A HUMAN BEING LIKE ME WOULD EXIST.
...
HONESTLY, THESE MEMORIES ARE MORE OF A BURDEN THAN ANYTHING...
DON'T YOU THINK 3 BILLION YEARS OF MEMORIES ARE A BIT TOO MUCH FOR A SINGLE HUMAN BEING TO BEAR?
I'M TIRED.

I THINK ALL LIFE FORMS EXIST FOR A REASON.
A SPECIAL ABILITY LIKE YOURS MUST HAVE A SPECIAL PURPOSE.
YOUR EXISTENCE COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER HUMAN BEING.
I HAVEN'T.
BUT A WITNESS FOR WHAT?
MAYBE YOU'RE A LIVING WITNESS TO THE EARTH'S EVOLUTION.
HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THAT POSSI-BILITY?
THAT I DON'T KNOW.
BUT...


YOUR CONSCIENCE AWOKE THE INSTANT LIFE ORIGINATED IN THIS UNIVERSE.
THE MEMORIES FROM EACH GENERATION WERE EMBEDDED INTO THE CHROMO-SOMES OF THE DNA...
...AND PASSED ON.
MAYBE YOUR DUTY IS TO KEEP PASSING DOWN THOSE MEMORIES FOR ALL OF ETERNITY.

NO ONE KNOWS FOR SURE, OF COURSE.
THE POINT IS THAT YOU'RE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF IT.
NO ONE KNOWS WHAT THE PURPOSE OF LIFE IS.

WHY?

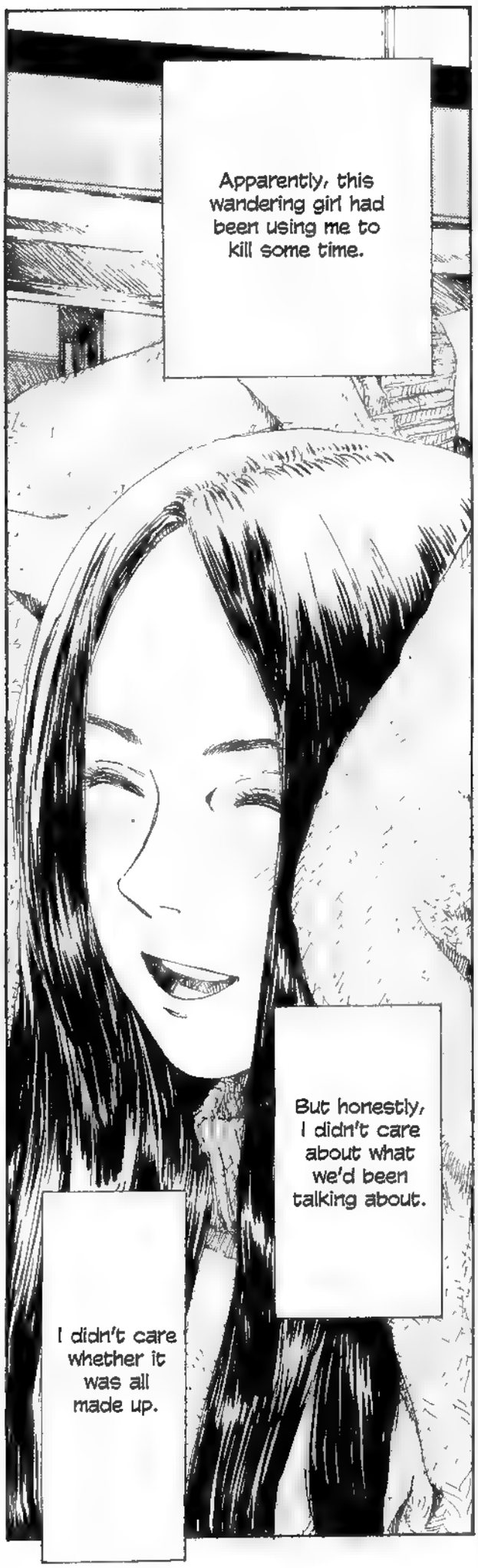

ANOTHER POSSIBILITY IS THAT YOUR EXISTENCE SERVES AS A TIMING DEVICE.
ONCE THE EARTH'S LIFE FORMS HAVE EVOLVED TO THEIR ABSOLUTE STATES,
THE INERT PORTIONS OF YOUR DNA WILL ACTIVATE TO CAUSE SOME TYPE OF REACTION.
WHAT KIND OF REACTION...?

THIS IS JUST A GUESS, BUT I THINK AN EVOLUTIONARY LIMIT SIGNIFIES A DEPARTURE FROM THE FLESH.
WHICH WOULD MAKE YOU A SORT OF CATALYST FOR HUMAN BEINGS TO EVOLVE INTO A SPIRITUAL STATE...
I DON'T GET IT.

YOUR CONSCIENCE WILL DETERMINE WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT...
YOU'LL ACT AS THE "TRIGGER," ACTIVATING THE INERT DNA OF EVERY SINGLE MEMBER OF THE HUMAN RACE.
BASICALLY, ONCE THE HUMAN RACE HAS REACHED ITS FINAL STAGE OF EVOLUTION,
Sapiens
Neandertal
Erectus
Habillis
Australopithecus
...AND HUMANS WILL EVOLVE INTO A SPIRITUAL EXISTENCE.
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE A SPIRITUAL EXISTENCE?
...BODIES WILL NO LONGER SERVE ANY PURPOSE.
IF THE INERT DNA IS GOING TO BECOME ACTIVE AT THE ABSOLUTE LIMIT OF EVOLUTION...
I'M JUST USING MY IMAGINA-TION.

AFTER ALL, AN "ABSOLUTE LIMIT" SIGNIFIES THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO EVOLVE ANY FURTHER.
IT'S EITHER THAT, OR DE-EVOLUTION.
SO THE HUMAN RACE IS GOING TO DIE OUT...?
NO, IT MEANS THAT THE COLLECTIVE CONSCIENCE OF THE HUMAN RACE IS GOING TO TURN INTO SOMETHING LIKE THE NOTION OF "GOD."
WHO KNOWS.
BUT YOU SAID IT YOURSELF.
THERE'S HARDLY BEEN ANY CHANGE IN HUMAN BEHAVIOR.
AND WHEN IS THAT GOING TO HAPPEN...?
WHICH MEANS YOUR SERVICES AS THE WATCHDOG OF LIFE...
...WON'T BE NEEDED FOR QUITE A WHILE...

HUH ...?
SO? HOW DID YOU LIKE MY STORY? WAS IT PRETTY ORIGINAL?
HAVE YOU EVER READ A SCI-FI NOVEL LIKE THAT BEFORE?
NO... I HAVEN'T.
WAIT, SO THAT WHOLE STORY JUST NOW WAS ALL FICTION?!
HAH- HAH- HAH!
OH MY ...
OF COURSE IT WAS.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE IT UNLESS YOU WANT TO.
REMEM- BER?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU AT THE BEGINNING?


Apparently, this wandering girl had been using me to kill some time.
But honestly, I didn't care about what we'd been talking about.
I didn't care whether it was all made up.

Oh.
THAT WAS VERY BIZARRE.
VERY ENTER-TAINING.

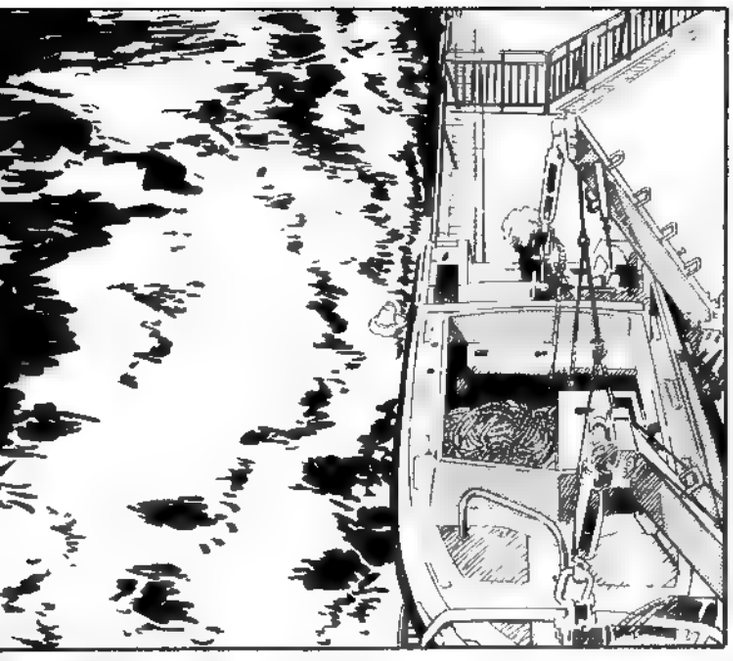
Pop music, modern jazz, movies, literature...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY'RE GOING TO CALL IT THE TOKYO TOWER.
Emanon suddenly became talkative after that, and we conversed over a wide range of topics.
THE STOCKS ARE ALL GOING TO BE DONE IN TOKYO FROM NOW ON.
THAT 50-MINUTE DIFFERENCE IS PRETTY BIG.
YOU KNOW HOW THE TOKYO-OSAKA EXPRESS TRAIN TOOK FOUR HOURS, BUT NOW IT ONLY TAKES THREE HOURS AND TEN MINUTES?
From free traveling, to professional baseball.
I THINK TOKYO STADIUM AND THE PALM BALL MAKE A BEAUTIFUL COMBINATION.

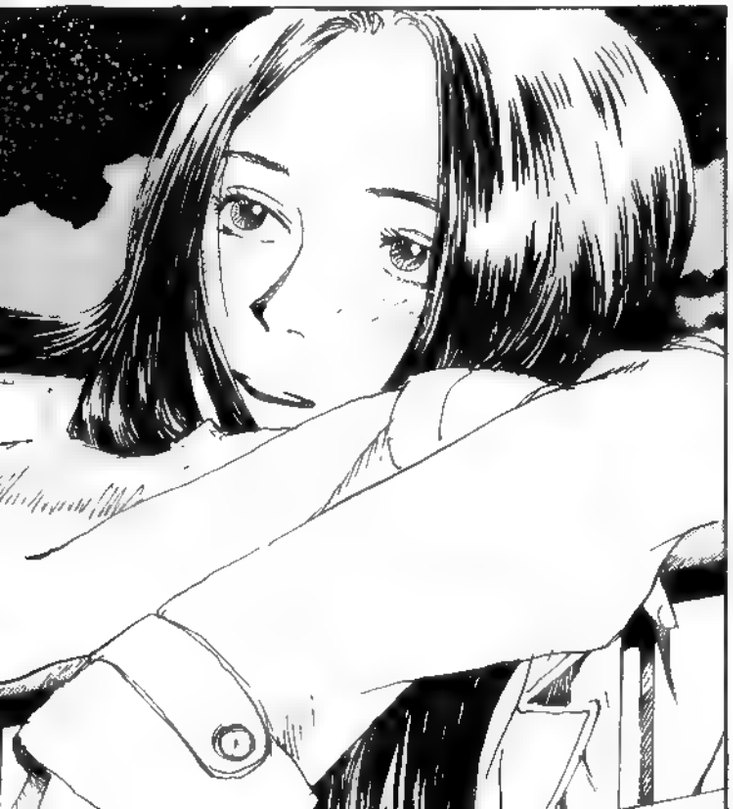
DID YOU WATCH THE ALL-STAR GAME LAST YEAR?
NO SCORE FOR FIVE INNINGS ...
AND THEN HIROSE SLAMS A 3-RUN HOMER!
BY THE WAY, DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FOUNDER OF THE CHUNICHI DRAGONS WAS THE YOUNGER BROTHER OF THE PERSON WHO WROTE ATRAGON?
...but Emanon was incredibly knowledgeable on every subject.
HE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST INDUCTEES TO THE HALL OF FAME.
Our conversations leapt from topic to topic...
HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW ONE? "SON OF GODZILLA."
I WAS FOUR YEARS OLD WHEN THE FIRST GODZILLA MOVIE CAME OUT.
I REALLY LIKED KUMAYAMA FROM HAPPY ENTERPRISES* WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
AND MR. TAKO FROM PACIFIC PHARMACEUTICALS**.
The time was so enjoyable ...
...and it felt like the world around us had ceased to move.

*In the movie *Mothra vs. Godzilla* (1964), Happy Enterprises is a company run by the greedy and unscrupulous businessman Kumayama who wants to exploit Mothra's egg as a tourist attraction.
**From *King Kong vs. Godzilla* (1962). Mr. Tako is the head of Pacific Pharmaceuticals. He hopes that catching King Kong would generate an advertising campaign to boost the ratings for a TV program he sponsors.

WHAT?!
BUT I SAW YOU GETTING ON THE SHIP...
YOU GOT ON BOARD WITHOUT A TICKET?!
SHHHH!
NOT SO LOUD.
OHH, SO THAT'S HOW YOU...
YUP.
DEAR PASSEN-GERS...
IF I MIGHT INTERRUPT YOU FOR A MOMENT...

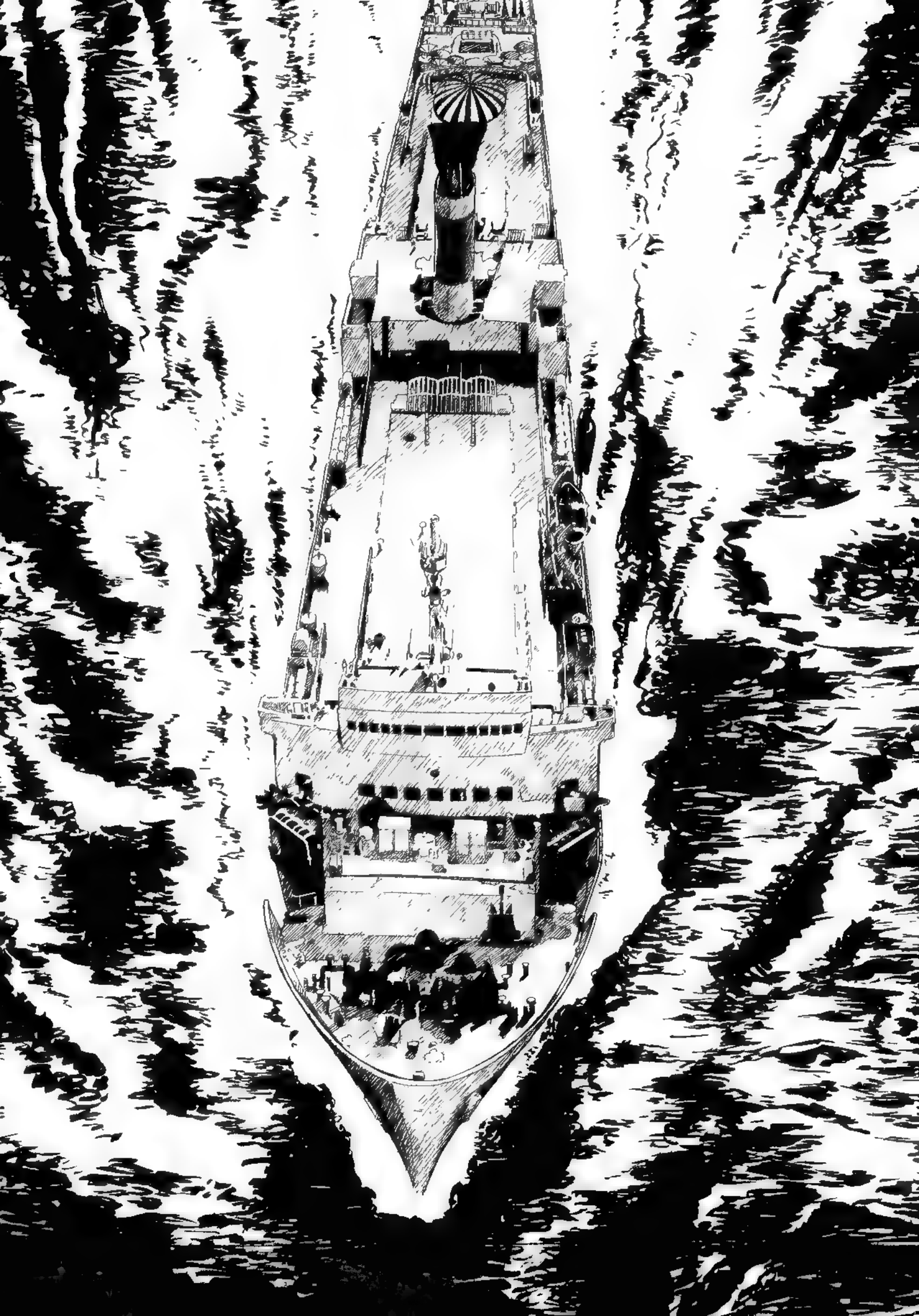
Y-YES?
I'LL HAVE TO ASK YOU TO CONTINUE OVER BY THE CABIN.
WE CAN'T HAVE ANY DRINKING PARTIES GOING ON IN THIS SECTION OF THE SHIP.



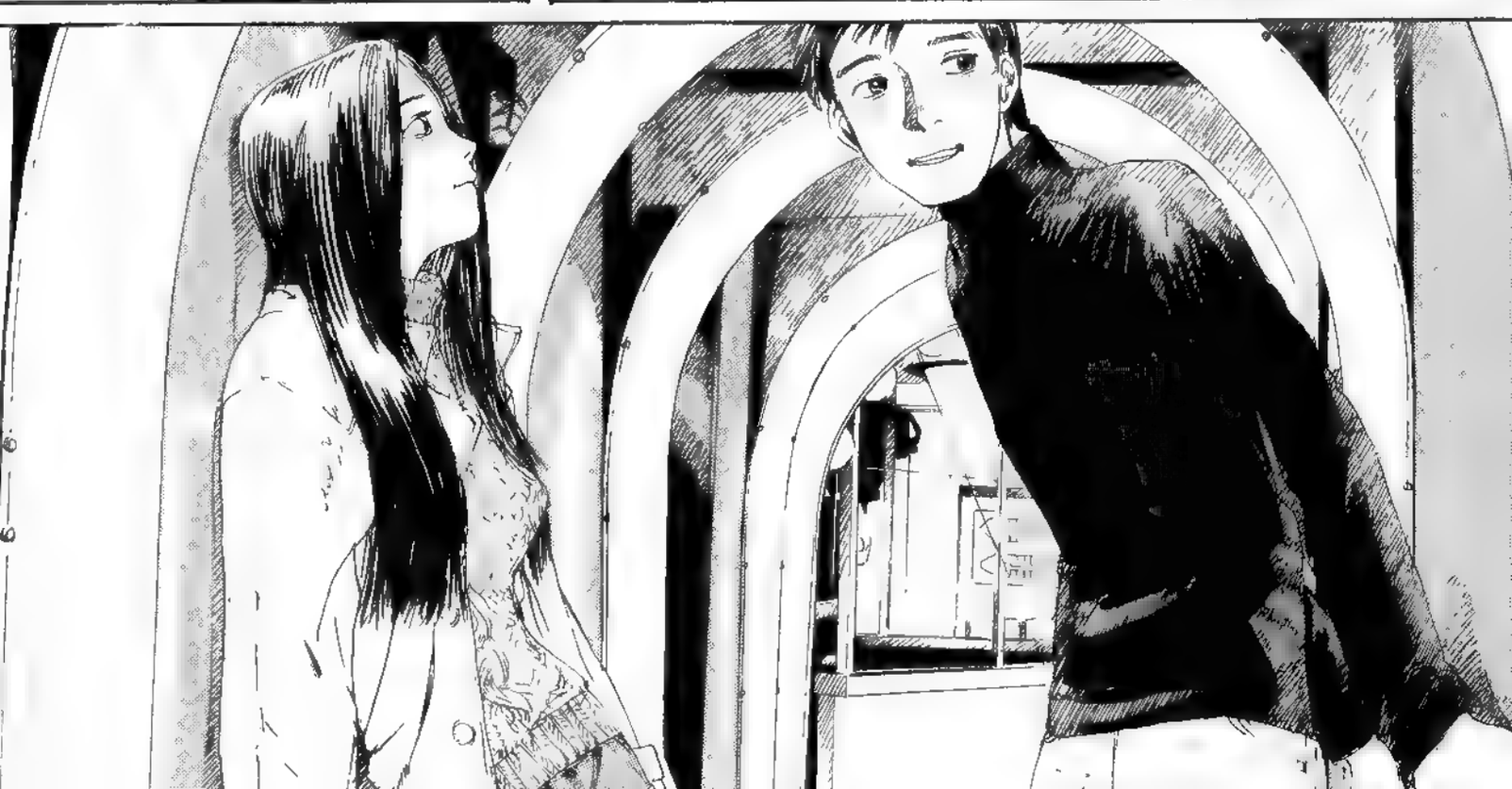


Memories of Emanon

Night, Around 9 or 10 PM, and Then...



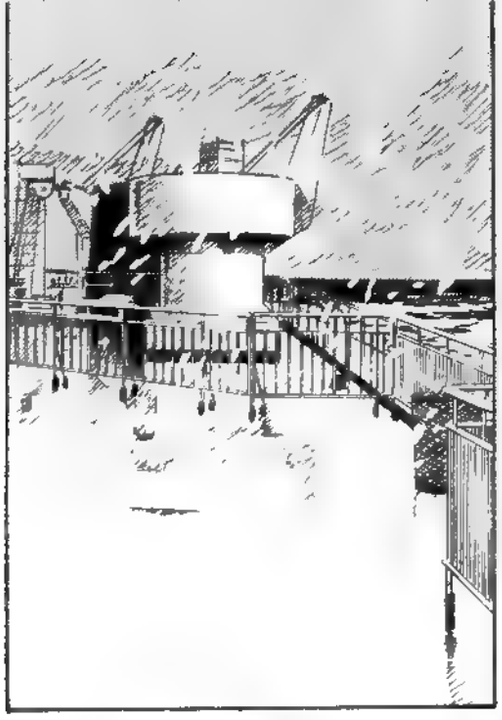
Sign:
Cabin Entrance

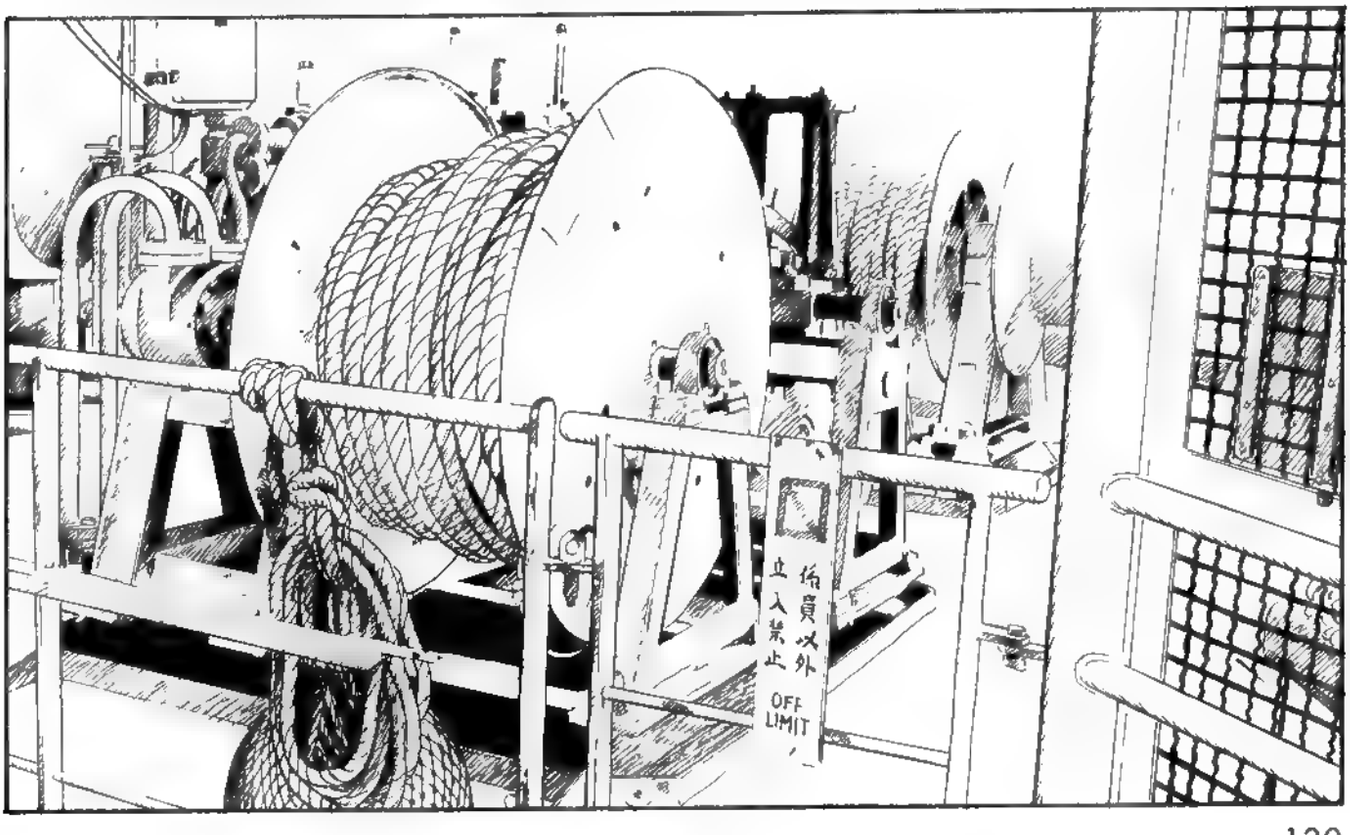


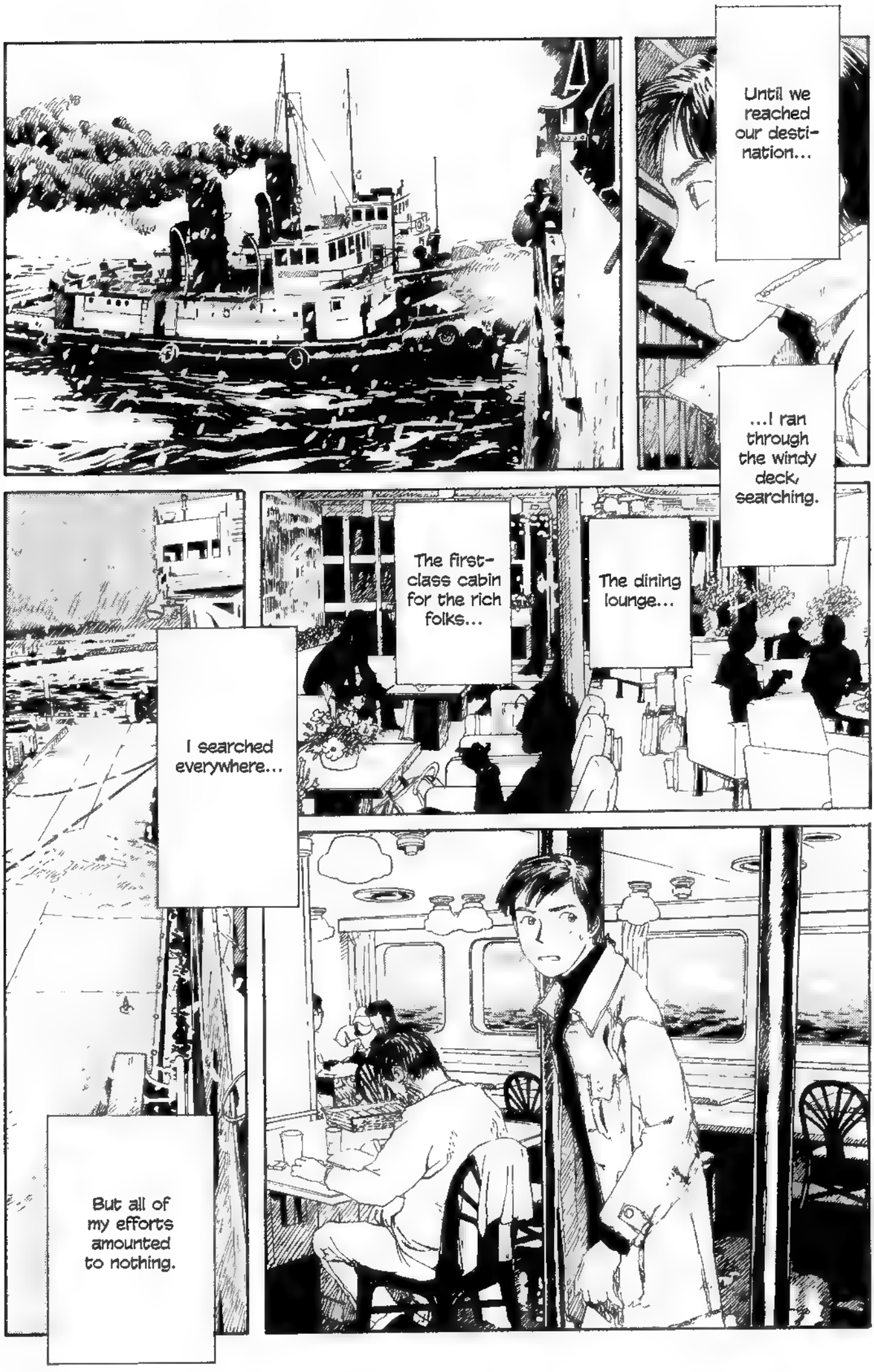
WHOOPS.
≒PHEWWW≒ WE'RE BACK.
MAN, WAS IT COLD OUTSIDE!

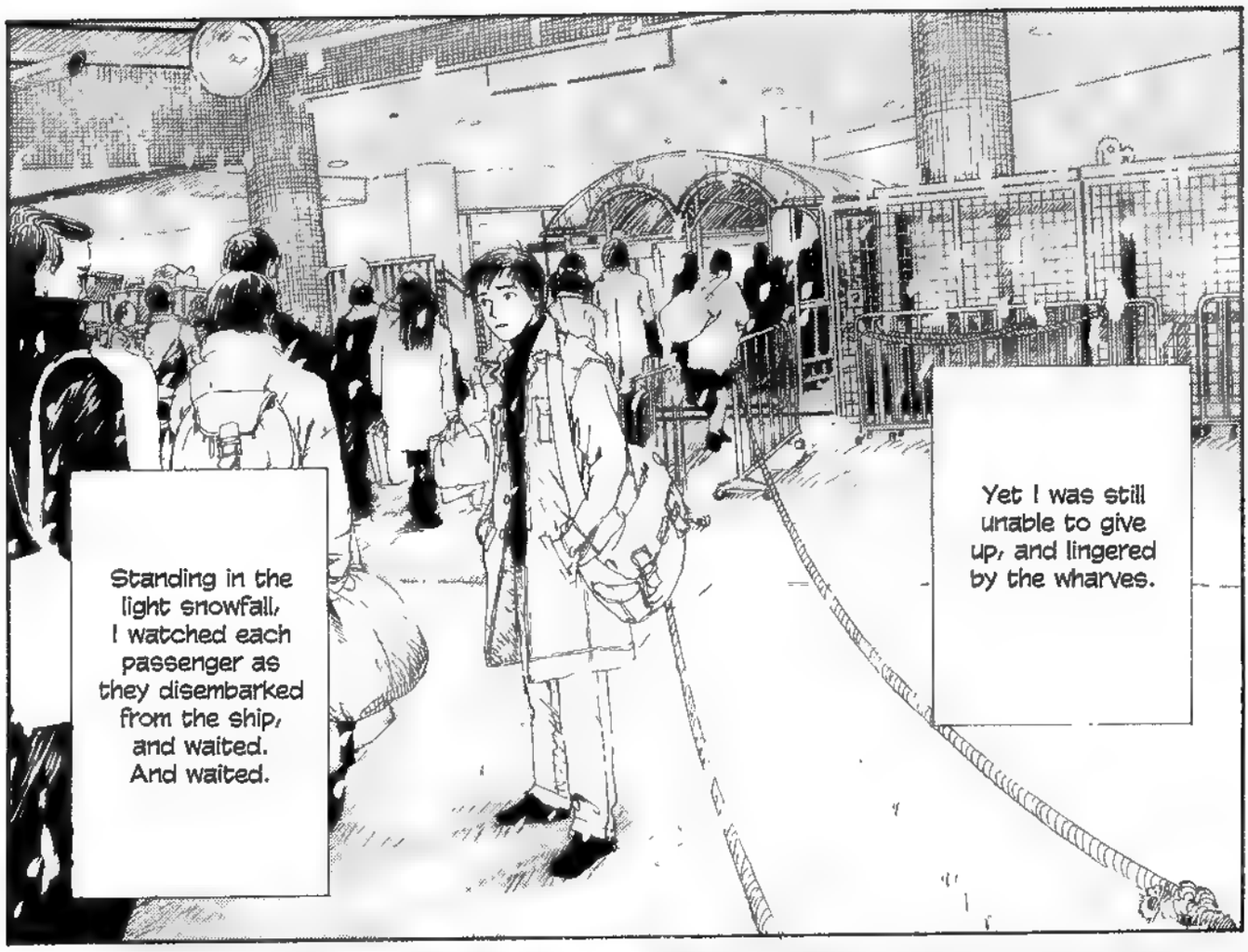
WHA'S WRONG? YER LOOKIN' ALL DRUNK THE TWO OF YE.
HEY THERE, YOUNG COUPLE!
FRIENDLY, AIN'T YE.
WHUH? SLEEPIN' ALREADY?
HEY, MISSY.
C'MON, IT'S TOO EARLY. C'MERE AND HAVE A DRINK.
YER STORIES ARE WACK.
HOH-HOH-HOH!
WHATCHA SAYIN'?

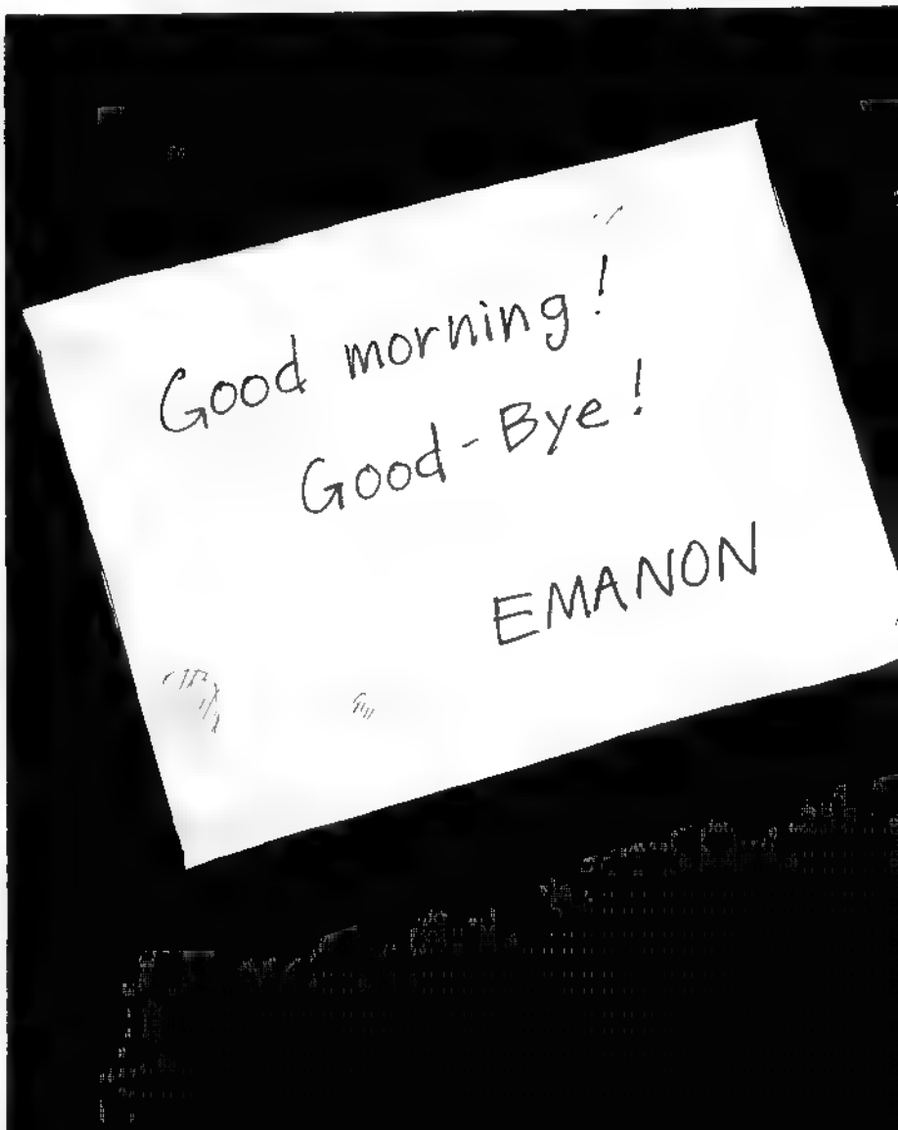
Good morning!
Good-Bye!
EMANON
ハウザーの記憶
HAUSER'S
MEMORY
BY
CURT SIODMAK

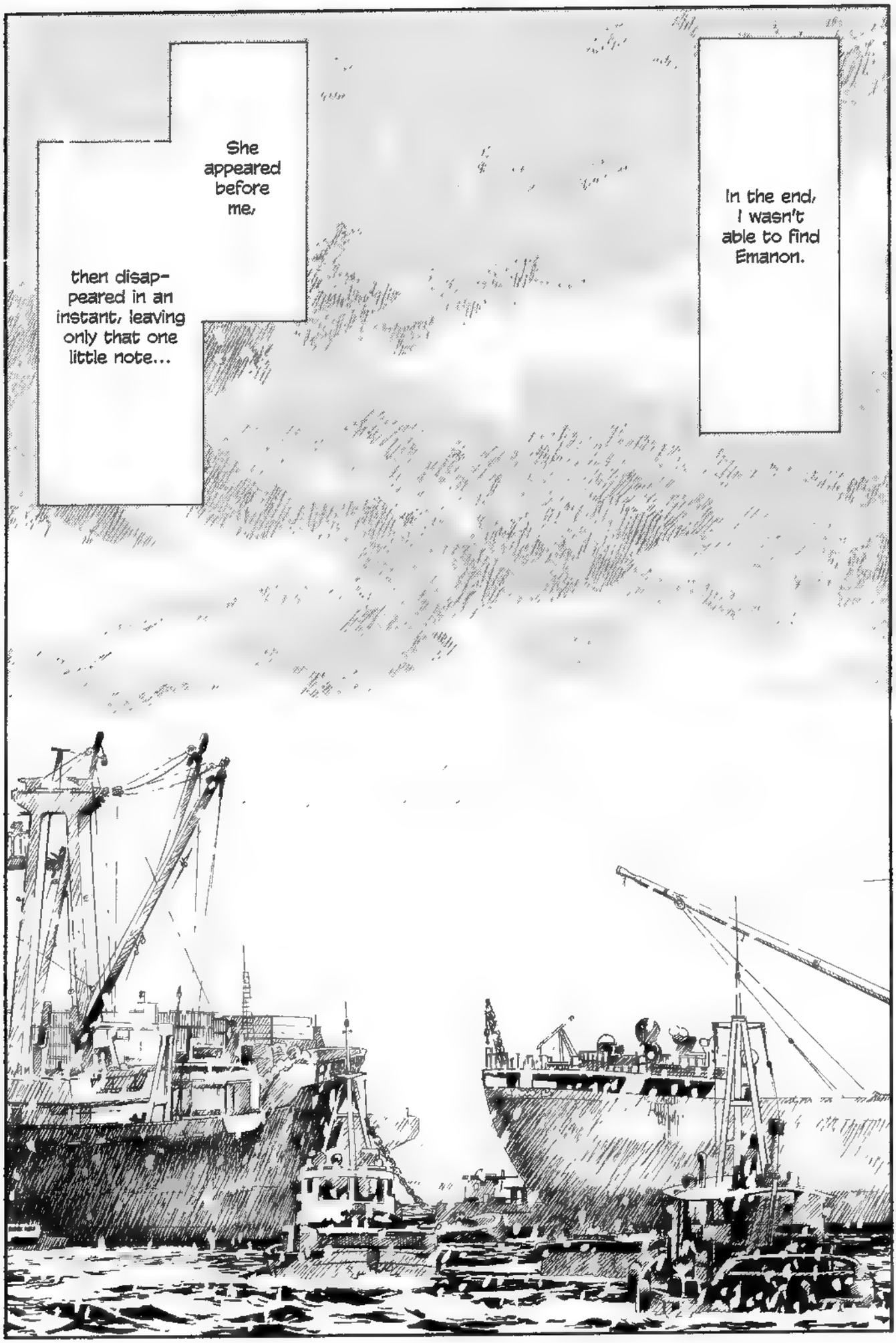


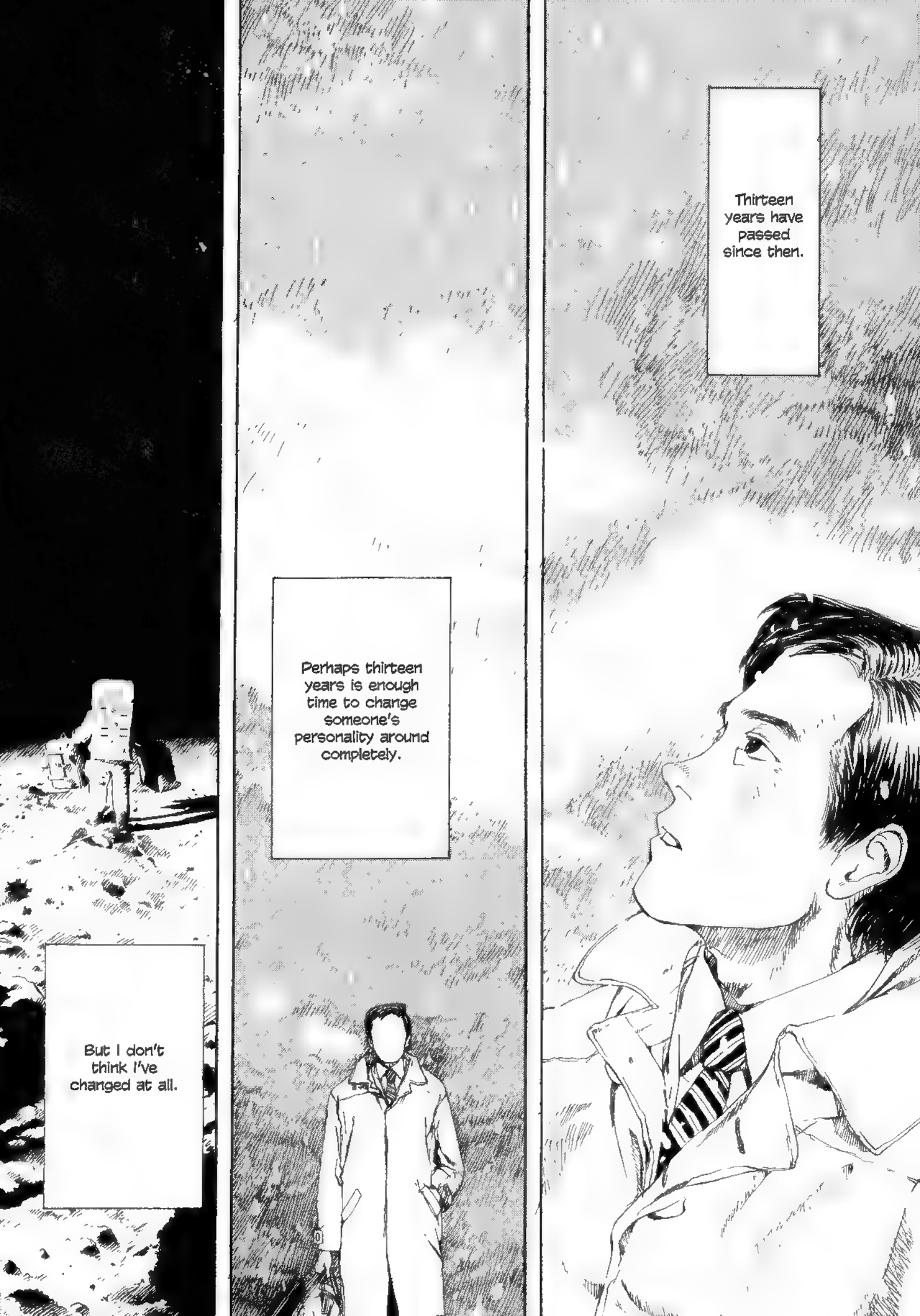

係員以外
立入禁止
OFF
LIMIT


Until we reached our destination...
...I ran through the windy deck, searching.
The first-class cabin for the rich folks...
The dining lounge...
I searched everywhere...
But all of my efforts amounted to nothing.


Standing in the light snowfall, I watched each passenger as they disembarked from the ship, and waited. And waited.
Yet I was still unable to give up, and lingered by the wharves.


Good morning!
Good-Bye!
EMANON

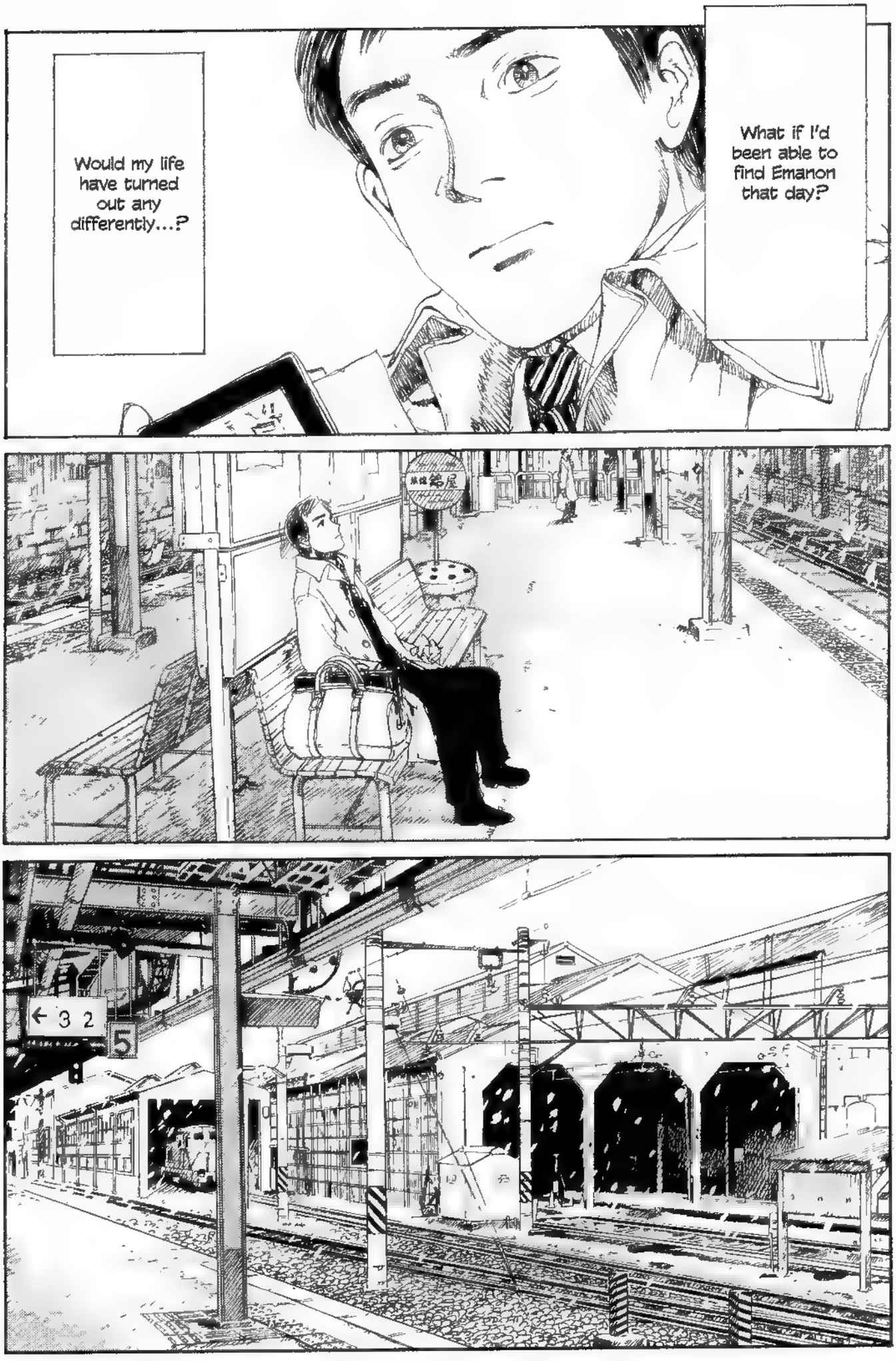

She appeared before me,
then disappeared in an instant, leaving only that one little note...
In the end, I wasn't able to find Emanon.


Thirteen years have passed since then.
Perhaps thirteen years is enough time to change someone's personality around completely.
But I don't think I've changed at all.

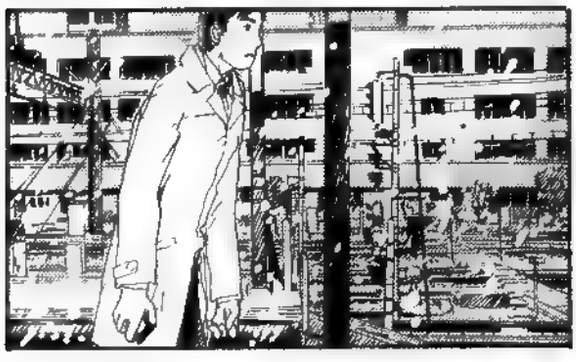
In these thirteen years, the human race has walked on the moon, caused an oil crisis, brought down an American president, and given birth from a test tube.
Oil Regulation Expanded to Include All Areas
Cabinet Passed Emergency Measures to Counter the Crisis
Prime Minister Arrested
Special Long Feature
JAPAN SINKS!
An Internationally-Respected Authority on Submarine Volcanoes Speaks
Read the Shocking Exclusive Interview with Dr. Tade
An earthquake stronger than the Great Kanto Earthquake is going to hit!
Magnitude 8.9
Abnormal activities in the Pacific Ring of Fire--Japan is moving!
Dr Tadokoro
I had my heart broken twice before I was introduced to a matchmaker, and was hurried into an arranged marriage.
I graduated from college, and joined a mid-scale business company...
Me?

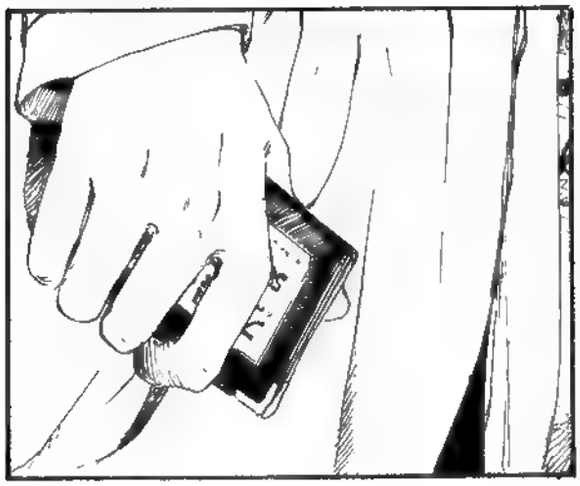
My father died...
I got a promotion...
I had two children with my wife, who never reads sci-fi.
Those are the highlights of my thirteen years.
But that doesn't mean I've changed.
I'm still that impulsive, compulsive scatterbrain with a love for sci-fi...
And I don't see anything wrong with that.

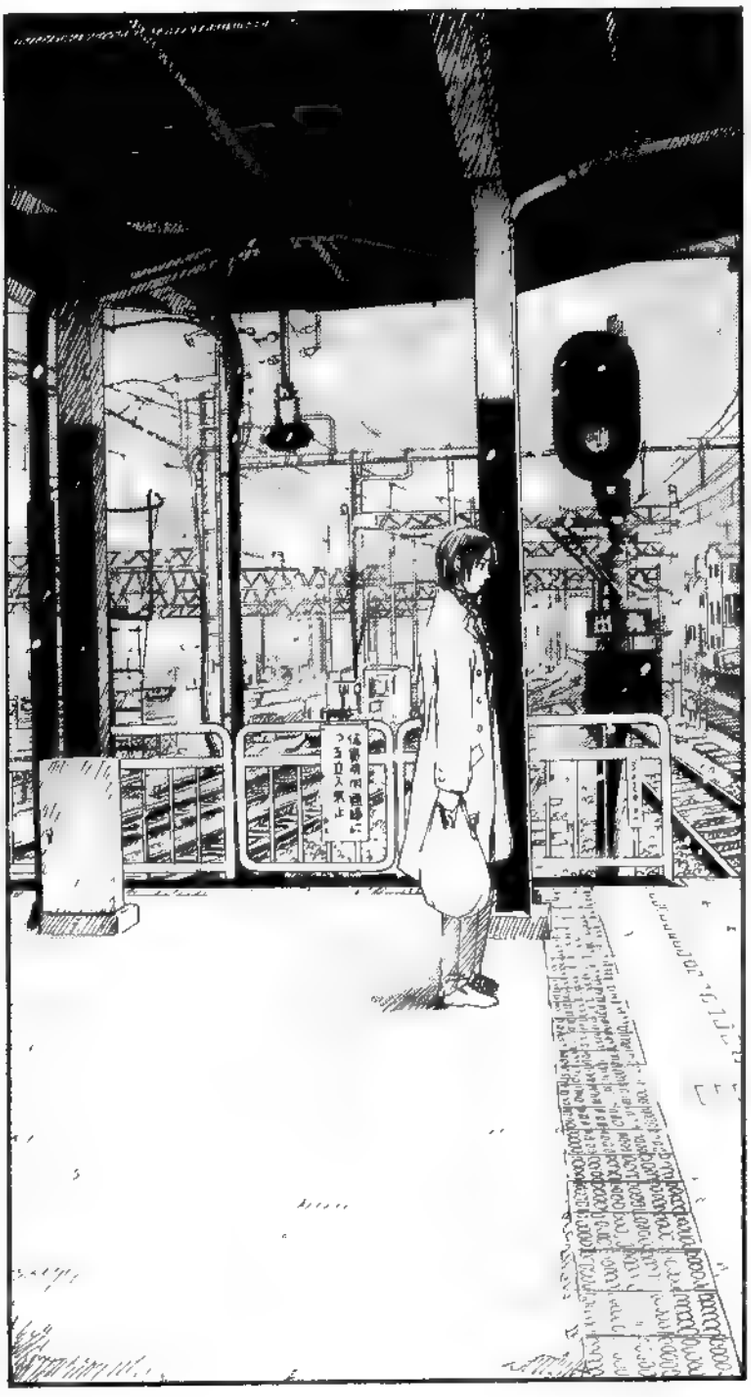
I'm going to keep being myself as I live out my plain, ordinary existence.
What's wrong with that...?
But...
What if...
Good morning!
Good-Bye!
EMANON

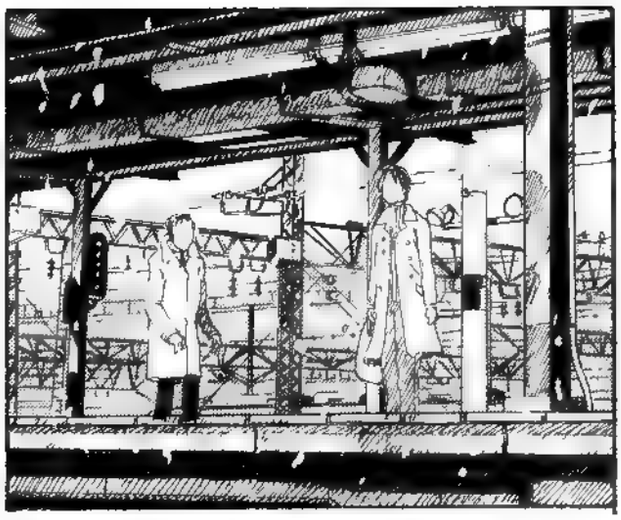

Would my life have turned out any differently...?
What if I'd been able to find Emanon that day?
← 3 2
5

But the unthinkable happened.
I thought I only had a one-in-a-million chance of seeing her again.
Thirteen years later, on this very day...
...I'd come across Emanon again.

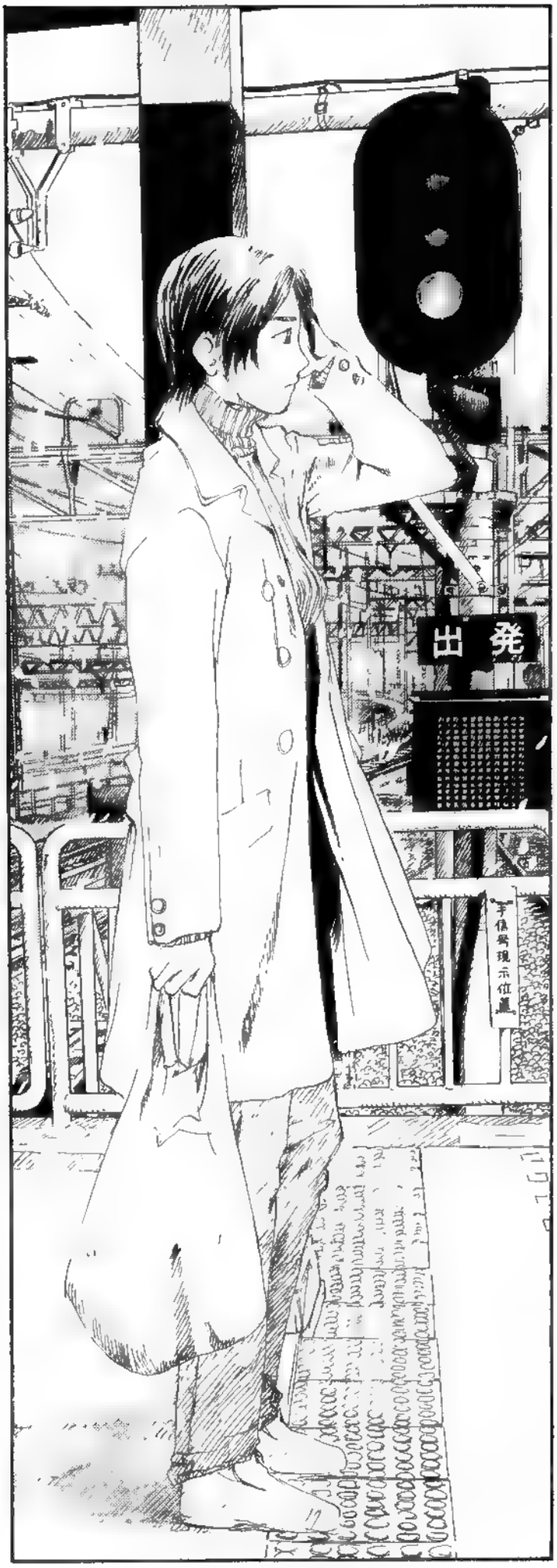








UM... EXCUSE ME...
DON'T I KNOW YOU FROM SOME-WHERE...?


出発

I'M SORRY, BUT I THINK YOU'RE MISTAKING ME FOR SOMEONE ELSE.
...
YOU INTRODUCED YOURSELF AS EMANON...
YOU KNOW, ON THE SHIP...
I GUESS I WAS MISTAKEN...
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY...
SOMEONE YOU KNOW?
NO, HE WAS MISTAKING ME FOR SOMEONE ELSE.
I'M BACK, MOM.

HAH-HAH... THERE YOU HAVE IT.
SORRY I BOTHERED YOU.

MISTER...

TH-THANKS...
大根←林
58. 3. -8

YOU DROPPED SOME-THING.

WHO DID YOU THINK MY MOM WAS?
SOMEONE I MET A LONG TIME AGO.

NO... I CAN STILL SEE THE RESEMBLANCE, TOO...
BUT I WASN'T QUITE SURE...
TEN... THIRTEEN YEARS, I THINK...
HOW MANY YEARS AGO WAS IT?
SO YOUR MOTHER TOLD YOU?
ON A SHIP?
I'M EMANON.

THANK YOU.
I'M GLAD YOU STILL REMEMBER ME.

THE PERSON YOU MET ON THE SHIP WAS MY MOM.
BUT MOM GOT MARRIED AFTER THAT...
...AND ONCE SHE HAD ME, SHE LOST ALL OF HER MEMORIES.
I INHERITED ALL OF THEM.

I MUST'VE SEARCHED THE ENTIRE SHIP.
I LOOKED EVERYWHERE FOR YOU.
AND... LOOK...
THE CONVERSATION WE HAD WAS VERY HELPFUL.
I...
Good morning!
Good-Bye!
EMANON
I STILL CARRY AROUND YOUR NOTE, LIKE THIS.
SO EVERYTHING YOU TOLD ME WAS TRUE?

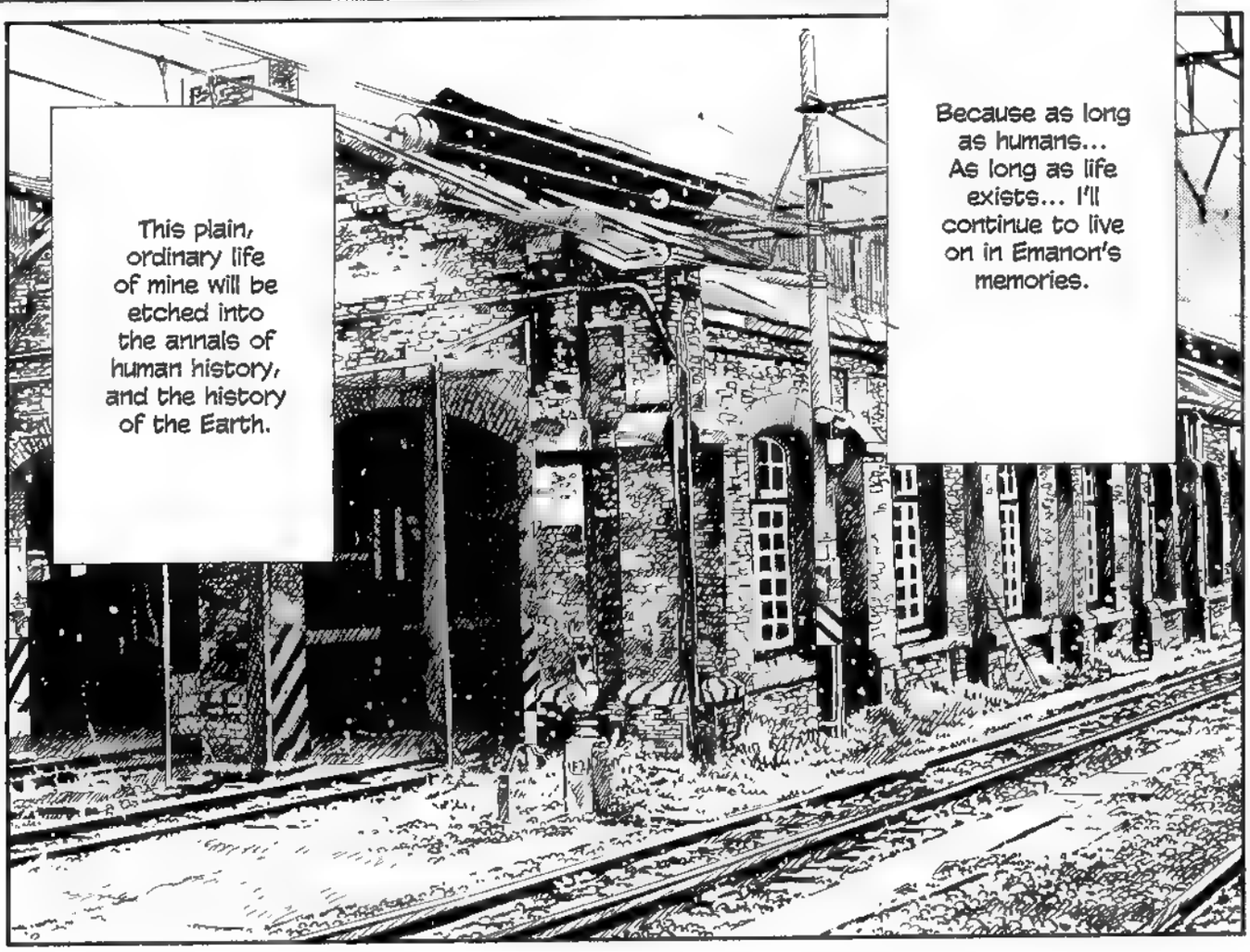
THEN WHY DID YOU DISAPPEAR?
I LIKE YOU.
A LOT.
I'M PROBABLY NEVER GOING TO FORGET ABOUT YOU.
---WHETHER I'M WITH YOU FOR JUST A FEW HOURS OR A FEW DECADES.
THE MEMORIES THAT I LIKED YOU ARE THE SAME FOR ME---
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
BUT--- I DON'T GET IT.

IT MUST BE FOR THE "MEMORIES."
IF I'M CARRYING ON EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED SINCE LIFE BEGAN...
I REACHED MY OWN CONCLUSION AFTERWARDS ...
AND I'VE DECIDED NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT SO SERIOUSLY.
EVEN THE HUMAN RACE NEEDS THEM ...
EVERYONE NEEDS MEMORIES, RIGHT?
I THINK MY EXISTENCE IS A MANIFESTATION OF HISTORY.
AND HISTORY MUST BE THE MEMORY OF LIFE ITSELF.

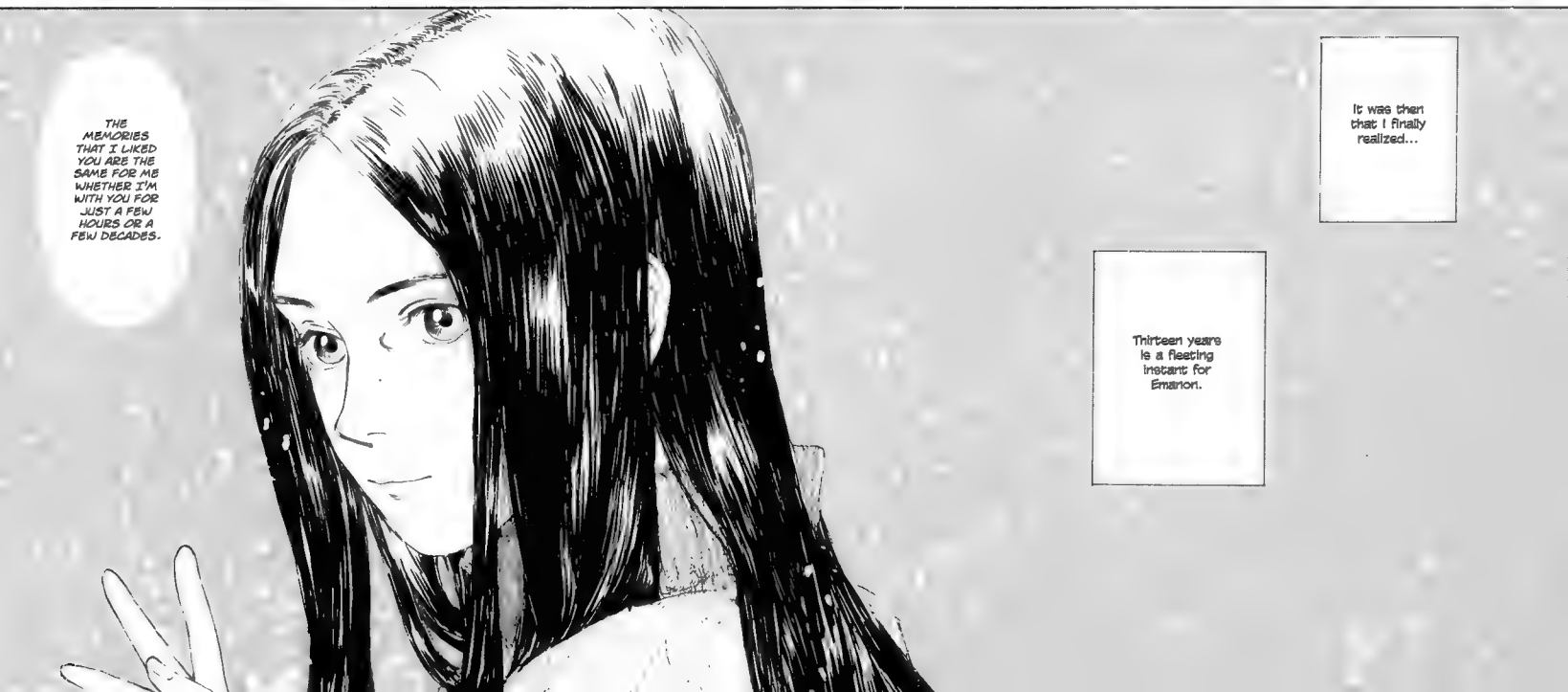
GOODBYE.

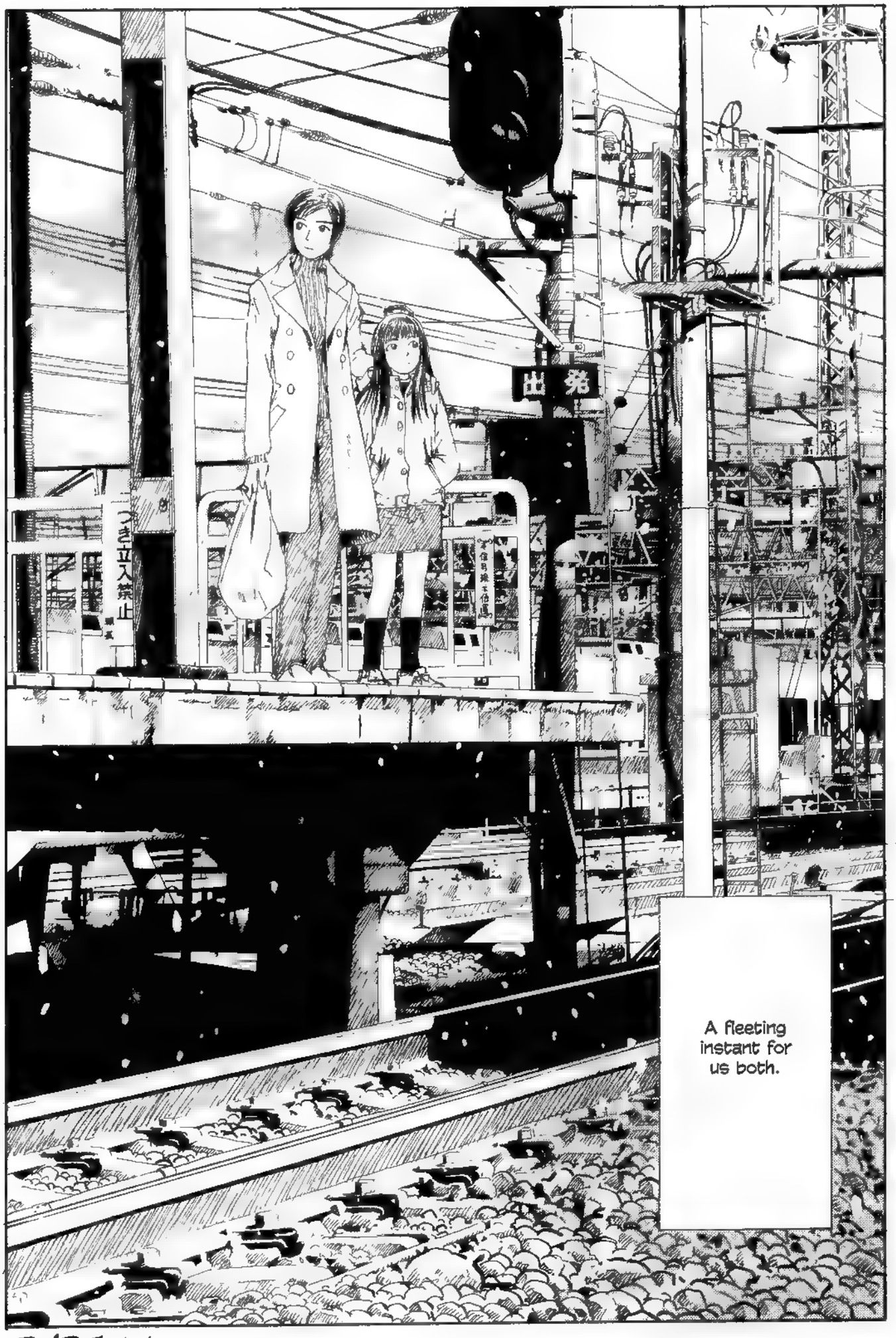
I'm probably never going to see Emanon again.
But I don't mind...

I'M NEVER ...
...GOING TO FORGET ABOUT YOU.


Because as long as humans... As long as life exists... I'll continue to live on in Emanon's memories.
This plain, ordinary life of mine will be etched into the annals of human history, and the history of the Earth.

Thirteen years, huh...


THE MEMORIES THAT I LIKED YOU ARE THE SAME FOR ME WHETHER I'M WITH YOU FOR JUST A FEW HOURS OR A FEW DECADES.
It was then that I finally realized...
Thirteen years is a fleeting instant for Emarion.

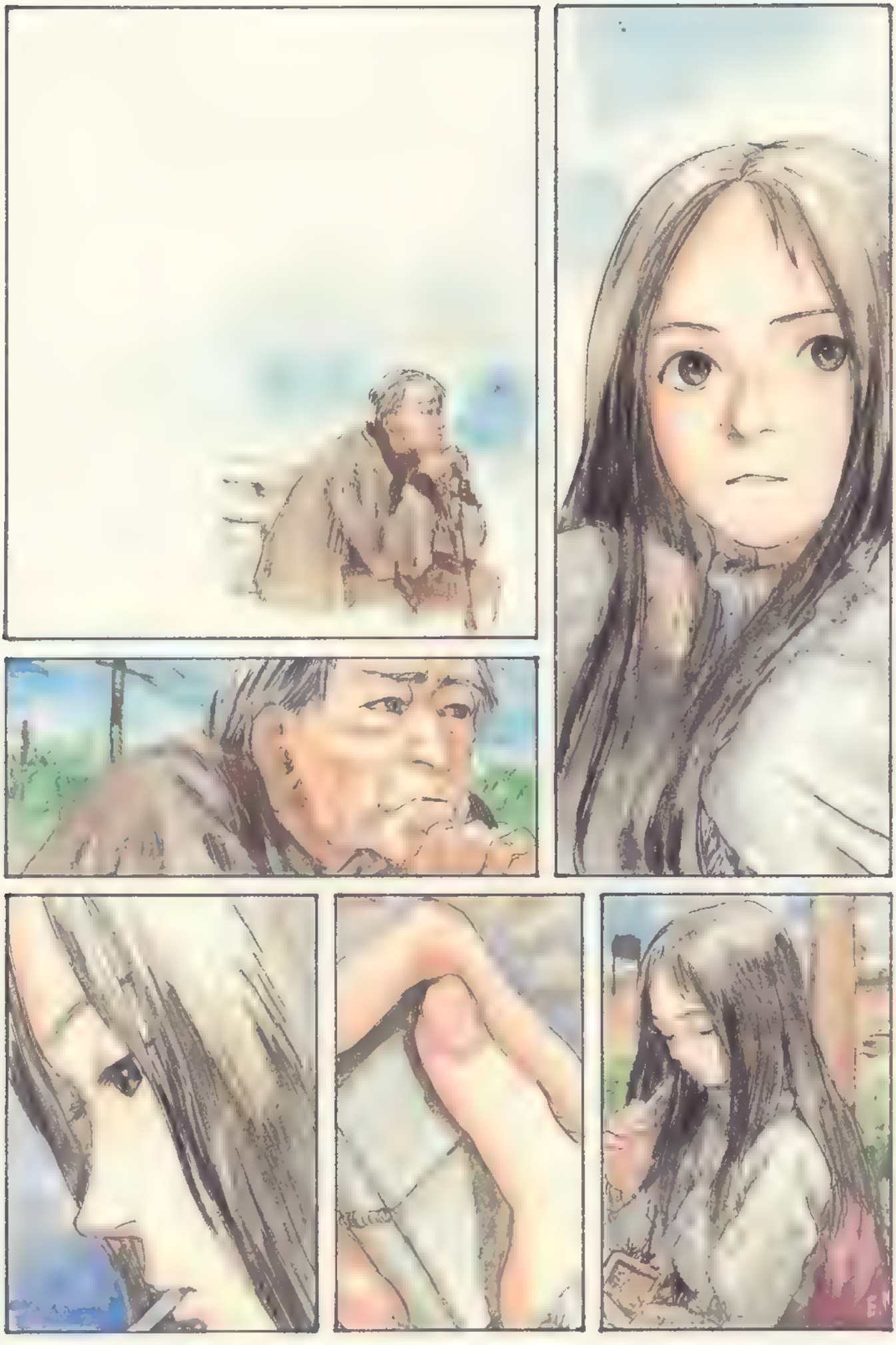


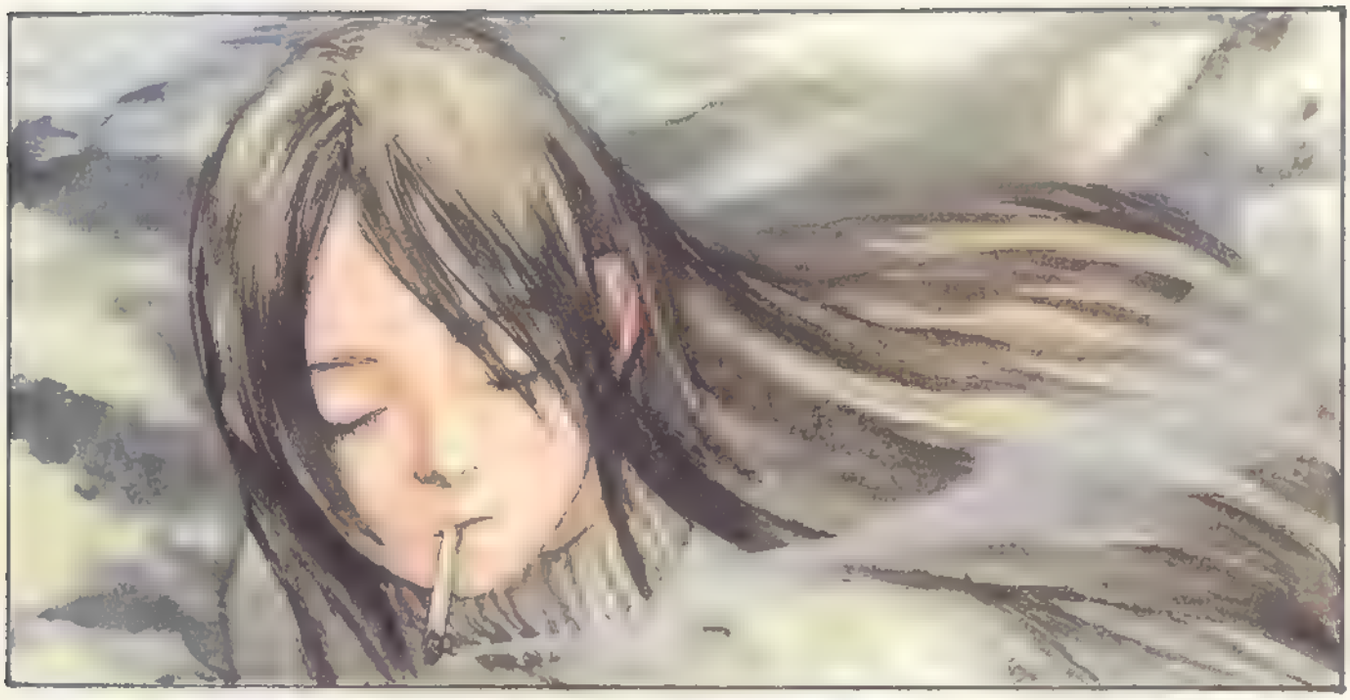
END

Thanks to
Keisuke Hayami & Atsuko Muto

E. N
Emmanuel's
Memories

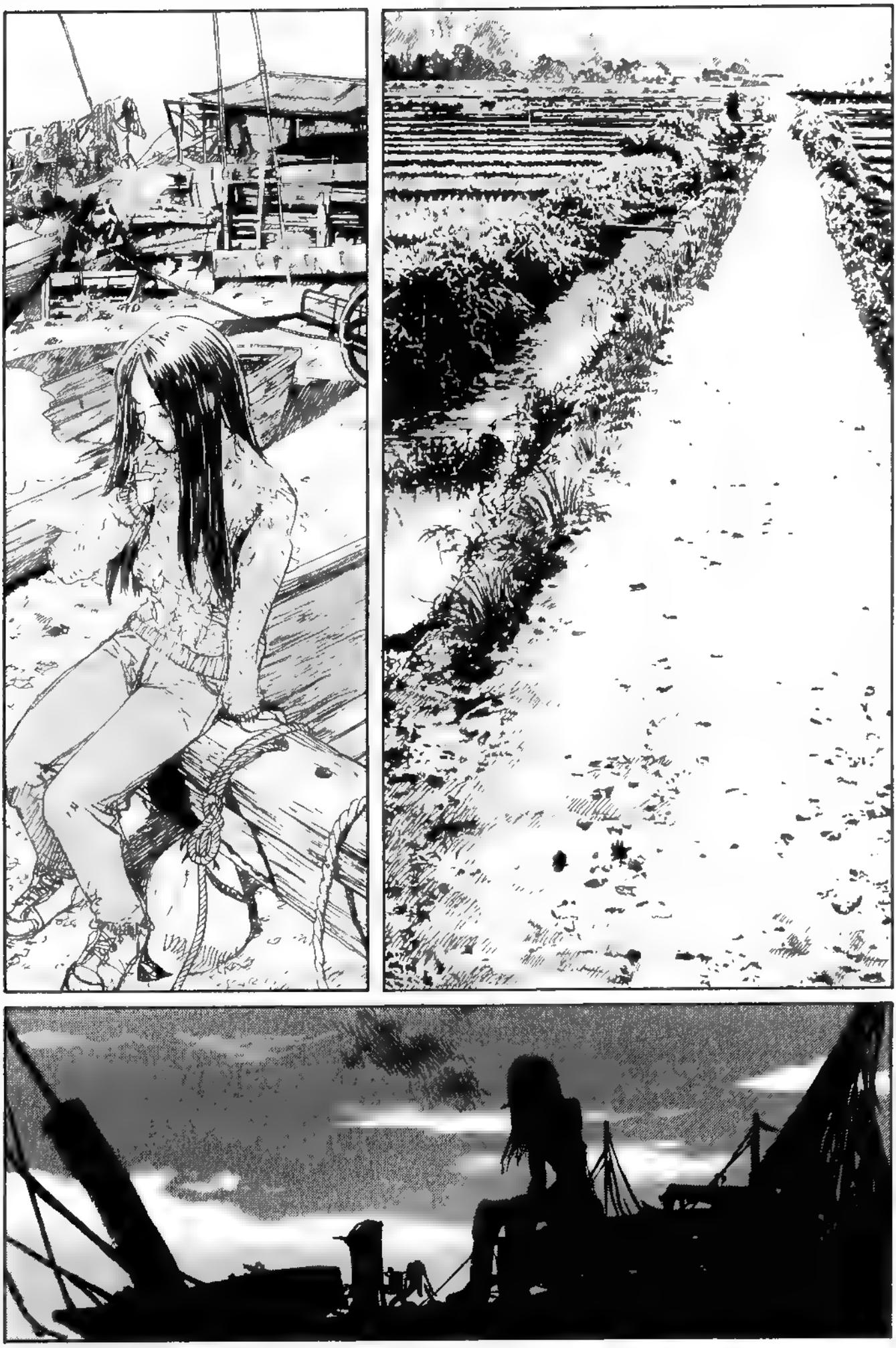
4

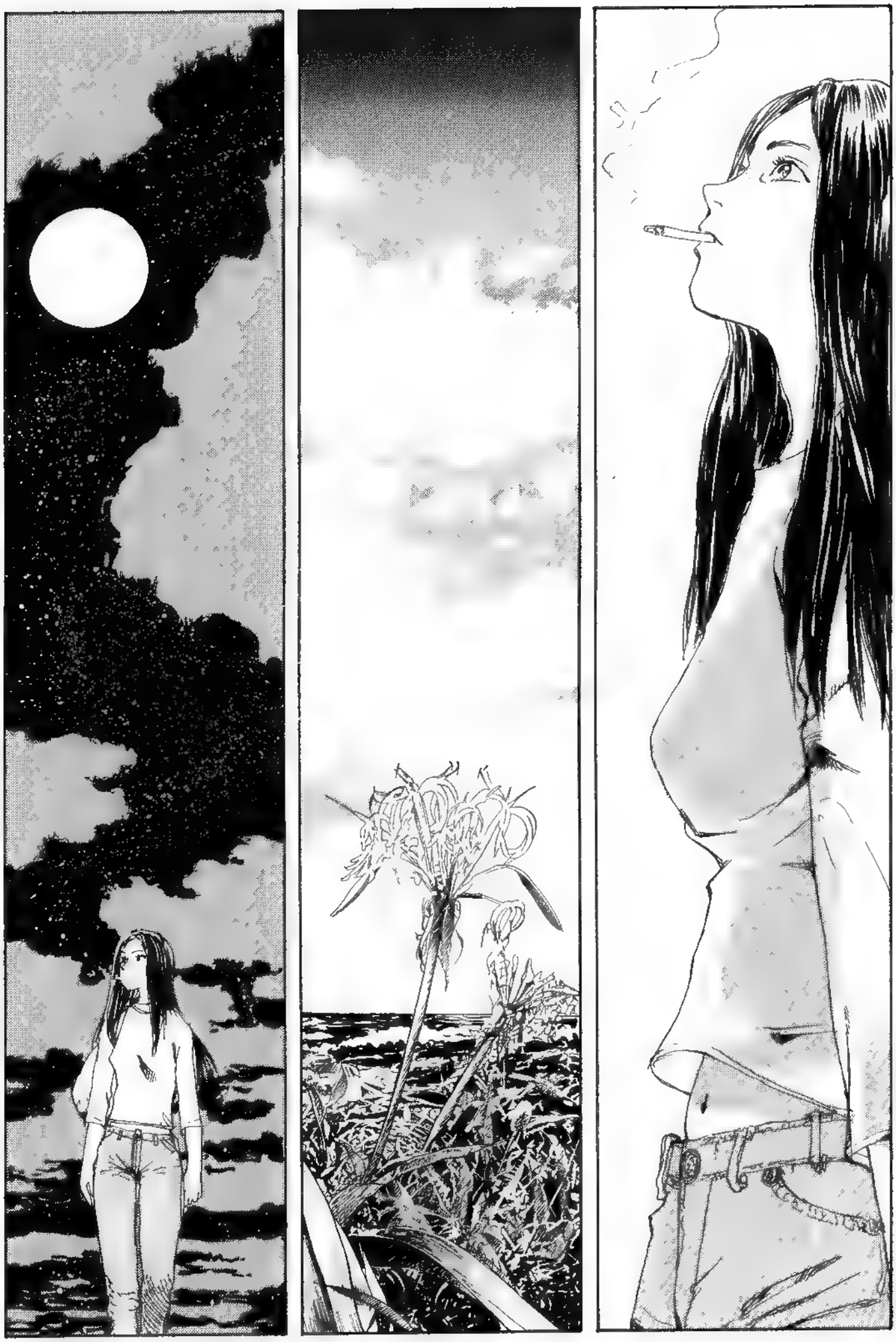




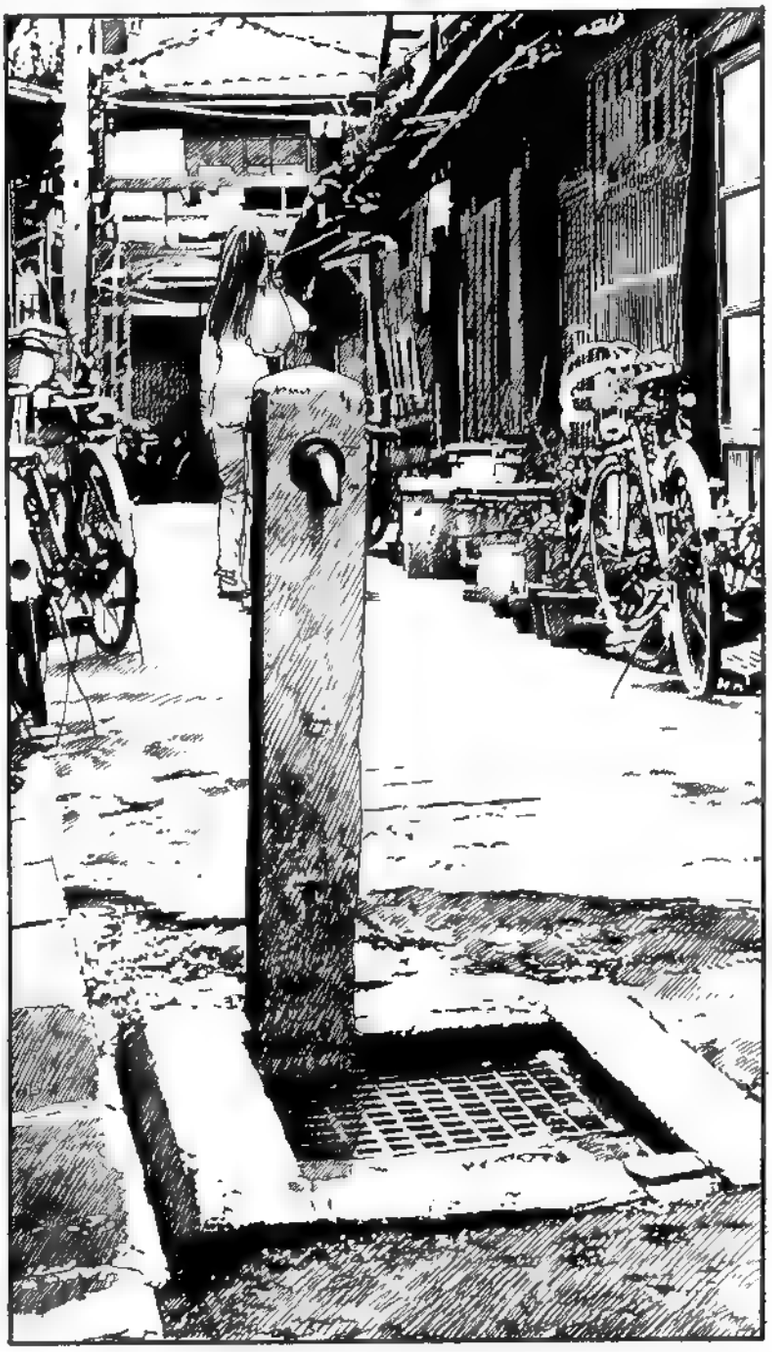
Emanon's Wanderings

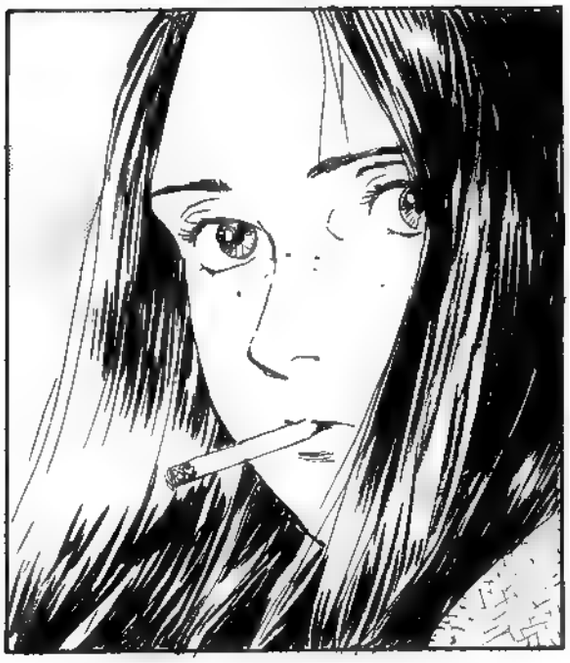
E.N.D



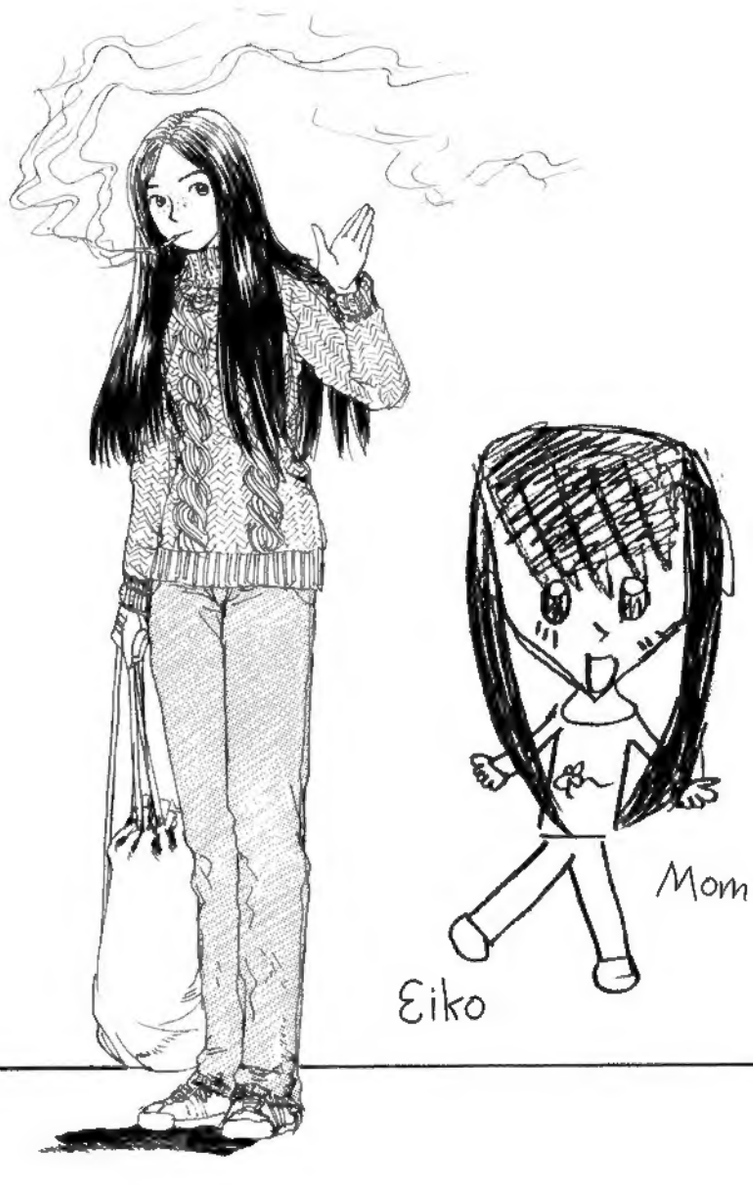


E.N.





Afterword



Shinji Kajio

The character Emanon was originally a product of my fantasies. It all began over 40 years ago, way back when I was making a solo voyage from Nagoya to Kagoshima on the "Sunflower" car ferry. I'd just gotten a job, and there was really nothing for me to do, other than read science fiction novels and indulge in my fantasies, all day long.

The fantasy was essentially this: "Wouldn't it be amazing if I met an incredibly beautiful girl on a ferry ride, and I spent the whole trip talking to her about random things?" And it wouldn't hurt if there was a mysterious side to her, either. My main physical preferences were all condensed into Emanon: long-haired, freckled, wearing jeans, and smoking a cigarette. Looking back, I think this image must have been influenced by the hippie subculture that existed during the 1970s.

Two terms that fascinated me during this period were "casual" and "once in a life time." The idea of having someone occupy a deep, significant part of your memory, but never being able to see them again... Once I began thinking about this, I became absorbed in a kind of sorrow and hopelessness that I couldn't find the words to express.

With these ideas in mind, this girl of my dreams continued to live on within me. And at some point, she had gained the attribute of having a 3-billion-year-old memory; the memory of evolution. The novel came seven or eight years after I first fantasized about her, and the name "Emanon" was something I stumbled across as I was writing.

The short story ***Memories of Emanon*** was published, and I thought Emanon's tale had reached its conclusion. But a few months later, I received an unexpected offer from my editor. Emanon had been well-received. He wanted another short story with Emanon as the main character. I had never intended on making Emanon into a series, so this took me completely by surprise.

The series ended with the publication of ***Emanon's Wanderings***, but was re-awakened in the first issue of *SF Japan*. Their chief editor introduced me to Mr. Kenji Tsuruta, and I was shocked when I saw his illustration of Emanon.

It was the perfect fit.

Thereafter, Mr. Tsuruta's illustration has occupied my mind every single time I've written about Emanon. He may be a slow worker, but Mr. Tsuruta more than makes up for it with the finished product, and he has my total confidence and support.

This version of ***Memories of Emanon*** is the very best result that has come forth from our collaboration. I had always hoped to have the opportunity to see Mr. Tsuruta's *Emanon* in volume form, and now my wish has finally come true.

So miracles do exist in this world after all.

Kenji Tsuruta

The character Emanon is my all-time favorite sci-fi heroine. The keyword for me is "wandering girl." I think it's a very fitting description. I came across Emanon around the same age as the main character of the story, when I was in college. There was a small bookstore on the way back home to my lodging which, oddly enough, contained a very substantial collection of sci-fi novels, and ***Memories of Emanon*** seems to be linked to my memories of that bookstore. Whenever I read *Emanon*, I'm reminded of small details, like the shape of the stains on the plywood walls, and the light footsteps that sound when someone walks over to the shelf containing the publications from Hayakawa Novels.

Obviously, these images aren't present in the work itself, but part of my desire to turn Emanon into a manga stemmed from wanting to include the bookstore somewhere along the course of the story. Not that I actually ended up including it. Which reminds me, I think it was around ten years ago that I saw an Emanon-esque lady on the limited express train of the Chuo Main Line. The real (?) one was wearing jeans and a red sweater, but I didn't end up drawing that either...

I remember talks of turning *Emanon* into a manga first came up after I'd done the illustrations for the *SF Japan* version and the Dual Novels version. Proposals for creating manga versions of novels had all been completely shot down in the past, but for whatever reason, the chief editor of *SF Japan* showed a particular interest in this project, and immediately made the trip to Kumamoto to seek Mr. Kajio's permission.

We also decided on the format, where two stories would be included in the volume, starting with ***Memories of Emanon***, drawn exactly as it was in the original story, followed by ***xxx of Emanon***, which would be a new, original take on the series. And so, the project gradually began to take shape... With a special emphasis on "gradually," I was attending to other half-finished projects like "this," "that," and "you-know-what" at the time, which meant plans for *Emanon* were still very vague. A project for next year, or maybe the one after that... Which could mean never, in the publishing industry. Afterwards, I was able to finish "this," but not "that" and "you-know-what," putting *Emanon* on hold... Waiting, neglected... For over four years.

In essence, if the chief editor hadn't forced me to begin working on short installments for the *Monthly Comic Ryu* magazine, ***Memories of Emanon*** would have never been started, let alone completed. Thank you chief editor, you're a miracle worker. And I apologize for taking this long, Mr. Kajio.

Emanon's Memories was originally published in *SF Japan*. It's basically a pilot version that I drew in 2002. The characters are different, so I debated whether I should include it or not, but I've chosen to re-re-republish it at the chief editor's request. I still find Emanon to be elusive as ever, no matter how many times I draw her. But looking back at these drawings for the first time in ages, I think I may have found the perfect Emanon on the 7th page! (...?)